

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
Subject: Re: Adventures in radio, II  
Message-ID: <82683.ddillman@igc.apc.org>

On Mon, 10 Jul 1995 18:33:05 -0500,  
TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu <TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu> wrote:

>to: boatanchors@theporch.com  
>  
> Lemme tell you about the most bizarre experience I've ever had in the  
>broadcasting biz.

HEE-hee-hee. Great. Just great.

I'm a Mungo Jerry fan, too. Did he ever make another record?

Best Regards,

Dick Dillman/WPE2VT  
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
San Francisco

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: jcreid@CCGATE.HAC.COM  
Subject: Aligning with WWV  
Message-ID: <9506118055.AA805504897@CCGATE.HAC.COM>

I've always heard mention of aligning generators, etc. with WWV, but I'll be the first to admit, I don't know the procedure. Hank VanCleef brought forth some great hints for aligning radios, but I haven't the foggiest how to get my BA test equipment jiving with WWV. Can anyone provide some assistance?

-Jim N6SVS  
jcreid@ccgate.hac.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>  
Subject: Re: Aligning with WWV  
Message-ID: <199507120100.UAA05866@zoom.bga.com>

As jcreid@ccgate.hac.com said  
>  
> I've always heard mention of aligning generators, etc. with WWV, but I'll be

> the first to admit, I don't know the procedure. Hank VanCleef brought forth  
> some great hints for aligning radios, but I haven't the foggiest how to get my  
> BA test equipment jiving with WWV. Can anyone provide some assistance?

>

The methods I use are essentially those I learned working for James Millen in the mid-50's. The two workhorses for your bench are a 100 KHz and 1 MHz crystal oscillator, and a general coverage receiver. You will need to set up to get WWV.

First thing to do is turn on all the equipment and let it warm up a half hour. Tune in WWV and beat the crystal frequency against WWV, tweaking the crystal trimmer until you get zero beat. Generally, the radio will cooperate, although many frequency meters and secondary standards have a built-in detector. You will, of course, need to consider injection levels so that your oscillator doesn't swamp your bench receiver. Make sure the oscillators aren't "pulling" by swinging in and out of the beat note---you should get a smooth action here, not a beat note that "jumps" in and out as you cross the matching point. This bit of setup is a daily job---any time you use your equipment, start with a check with WWV.

The 100 Kc and 1 Mhz crystal frequencies should have plenty of harmonics in them. For broadcast, 160, 80, and possibly 40 meters, you can tune across the radio dial and listen to the 100 Kc marking things. Turn the BFO on to hear the squeal, and zero-beat the BFO against WWV on the nearest WWV frequency to the frequencies you are working with. Your bench receiver, of course, should have its IF's properly aligned, and once you've gotten the best center you can on WWV, zero-beat the BFO against it. This will allow you to tune the bench receiver to any of the 100 Kc. markers accurately. For higher frequencies, you will want to go to 1 Mc. markers.

If you are lining up a radio, you can use it as the "bench receiver" for getting WWV. You can use the VFO in a signal generator just to assure that you are listening to the correct marker. For this, the signal generator calibration is not critical; just has to be close enough that its dial will tell you which marker you are listening to in places on the dial where they are close together. You will, of course, need to have some fundamental frequency points to make sure you're listening to the harmonic of the crystal you think you are. Once you've got your bench receiver set up so that you can trust its calibration reasonably well, you can use it as a frequency meter for anything else, but keep in mind that all your tuning will be whistle-stopping against your crystal oscillators, and those get whistle-stopped against WWV regularly.

For dealing with VFO's in things like signal generators and grid dips, set up your crystal oscillator and bench receiver. Find the frequency

you are looking for on the receiver with the crystal, then tune the VFO under test to that frequency.

To get an accurate 455 Kc for IF's use a broadcast station at 910, or two that are close to it. If you have stations at 890 and 950, log the dial readings when they are centered, then interpolate to 910. Set your generator for 455 and listen for a beat note. A good communications set with a logging scale on the tuning dial will give you some resolution to interpolate against.

Most oscillators will put out enough nonlinearity in their fundamental to make their second and third (at least) harmonics usable. If you need to "help things along" a bit, you can shove a sharp-cutoff tube into your bench receiver's front end to get a little harmonic distortion---you'll need millivolt signal levels for some of this, because you are looking for some harmonic distortion. What frequencies you actually use depends on the frequencies of interest you are working with. I gave the example of the S-36A which tunes a ratio of about 1.9:1 on each of its three bands. My 1 Mc oscillator will produce usable squeals up to around 42 Mhz in the S-36A. However, if I needed to go directly from WWV at 15 Mhz to get a couple of points on the 70-143 Mc band on the set.

1. Harmonics of 15 Mhz are 30, 45, and 60. Using the S-36A (uncalibrated), you can calculate that 45 Mhz. fundamental will give you harmonics at 90 and 135---reasonable points for 70-143. So we'll go with 45, and set the VFO on the signal generator to that.
2. To do this, dial up WWV at 15 Mhz. and set the signal generator to WWV.
3. Without touching the generator, find the 3rd harmonic on the S-36A, and get it tuned in with the BFO for zero beat.
4. Without touching the S-36A, reset the signal generator for 45 Mhz and get it zero beat in the S-36A.
5. Without touching the signal generator, set the S-36A to the 70-143 band and use the 2nd and 3rd harmonic to set those two points.

You can, of course, use other WWV frequencies and other frequencies to get most anywhere in that band, with only one intermediate step to reset the signal generator. The trick here is to use a WWV harmonic, set the receiver to the desired harmonic as accurately as possible, then reset the generator fundamental to that frequency. The amount of error you introduce will depend on how finicky you are in setting the dials and listening to zero beats. However, the steps in which you don't touch the dial of something you have set to the best of your

ability means that you are maintaining traceability to your original standard (WWV, in this case). Also, using harmonics to pin down two points, rather than resetting the signal generator, means that you are only relying on the signal generator to be relatively stable, not counting on its dial accuracy. All of the accuracy depends on your ability to zero-beat signals.

--

\*\*\*\*\*

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

\*\*\*\*\*

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995

From: Schroeder.Wbst207V@xerox.com

Subject: ARC-5 Xmtr parts needed

Message-ID: <"11-Jul-95 11:16:33".\*.Schroeder.wbst207v@Xerox.com>

Hollowstaters,

This weekend I picked up a heavily modified ARC-5 7-9Mc Command transmitter. Unfortunately it is missing the VFO cover and dial. Anyone have a junker that wouldn't miss the two parts? Actually any dial / vfo cover from a command transmitter would work since the intended usage will need to be recalibrated anyway.

73 Russ W2DYY

schroeder.wbst207v@xerox.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995

From: MICHAEL@ecs.umass.edu

Subject: Re: BA attractions

Message-ID: <01HSQ0ZPLYYAHTS91M@ECS.UMASS.EDU>

>I'm heading for Oregon soon and wonder if there are any not-to-be-missed BA  
>attractions anywhere within reasonable range of I-5? I'm looking for the  
>usual: places that sell BAs, radio museums and of course any particularly  
>obsessed colleague and reader of this list who might like to talk BAs for a  
>bit.

As Dick Dillman's is the second posting in this vein I've come across this morning, I'd like to remind people that I'm compiling for distribution to

this group a list of places around the country that sell BAs and related gear. Please forward any interesting finds to me (or the listserver). Sorry Dick, I don't have anything for Portland-Salem-Eugene.

Regards,

John Michael      michael@ecs.umass.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: doonan@cordmc.dnet.etn.com (Dennis Doonan x6916 (N9VSL))  
Subject: BA sightings  
Message-ID: <9507100306.AA16964@etn.com>

You probably have seen the ad in Electric Radio for the Western Heritage Museum in Omaha. Well, if you are any where near there, take the time and see the ham radio exhibit. It is not huge, but well worth a look.

Lots of Globe, of course, a Collins KWM-1, a KWM-2 (under a case)--that had a bit too much crud on the hardware--and a deteriorated plug barrel on the headphones, etc, etc.

There is even a solid state rig for the club station. Very interesting QSL cards and WRL zone map on display also. Also, lots of old BA test equipment.

The second stop on the trip is Surplus Sales of Omaha. I do remember the recent thread about dealings with them, but they have a show room which is there stock room. You can wander around and turn on your own lights. Lots of

Lots of little parts and do-dads. Those very big \$\$\$ Collins emblems look nice. Also, off to the side is used test equipment and some ham gear. A 51J that needs a clean-up (\$250), A KWM-2 (was told it would be "a lot" e), and as a top shelf item, on the top shelf, a couple of 32V transmitters for \$995 each.

At least they are a good small parts store.

73 de Dennis, N9VSL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu  
Subject: BC-221 / LM  
Message-ID: <F7BL3825.F7BL3837@mail.admin.wisc.edu>

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Hello Jerry.

Your right, the coverage IS up to 20 MHz, but there are only two FUNDAMENTAL ranges; the rest is done on HARMONICS of those ranges.

BTW, take a look at the output waveform of a 221 or LM sometime. To get those nice, fat harmonics the beast puts out the messiest waveform you've seen in a LONG time!

73's,

Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: w0ogh@ix.netcom.com (Larry Godek)  
Subject: re:BC-640  
Message-ID: <199507111357.GAA12923@ix6.ix.netcom.com>

I had one in the Base Mars station in Michigan where I was stationed in the early 60's. I could work all bands at once from 2 meters on up and with a little fiddling around I could even bug the hell out of the base commanders telephone. Cause the room for me station was right next to the base switchboard. When I tuned the rig in a certain way (don't remember now what all I did), I could hear the gals answering the switchboard and the old man asking who was calling him. About 4 times in one night was enough for me. I shut it down and left town.

Larry WOOGH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: post@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu  
Subject: re:BC-640  
Message-ID: <0099333F.752BEEA0.10@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu>

Ohio University Electronic Communication

Date: 11-Jul-1995 05:50pm EST

To: Remote Addressee ( \_MX%"boatanchors@theporch.com" )

From: Richard Post Dept: Instructional Media  
Services  
POST Tel No:

Subject: re:BC-640

For authenticity with the 640 transmitter, you need the matching BC-639A receiver and its original power supply! I'm willing to part with mine for \$75 plus shipping. Receiver and supply work and are in good to very good condition, with matching original power cable. This BC-639A is Royal Canadian Air Force VHF as indicated on the name plate and is identified as both BC-639A and as AR95610-1 with a serial number of D5031. The matching power supply can be connected to either 110 or 220 volts AC and is labeled as Rectifier RA 42-B Serial number 381, part number SC-D-9900. The nice thing about the 639 as opposed to the 640 is no problems with TVI ;-) Don't know if it will pick up the Commanding Officer's phone calls, Larry! Any VE's wanna bring it back to RCAF country, (sorry, dollars are US)?

Rich KB8TAD <post@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu>

Received: 11-Jul-1995 05:51pm

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: Clark Fishman (FSAC) <cfishman@fsac3.pica.army.mil>  
Subject: BC221 and LM  
Message-ID: <9507111616.aa28166@FSAC3.PICA.ARMY.MIL>

Does any body know the fundamental frequency range of the BC-221 and the LM frequency meter's VFO???

73, Clark Fishman WA2UNN cfishman@pica.army.mil

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: mshaum@xnet.com (Mark Shaum)  
Subject: Re: Black Face R390A?  
Message-ID: <199507110428.XAA04973@quake.xnet.com>

>On Mon, 10 Jul 1995 18:08:18 -0500,  
>Mark Shaum <mshaum@xnet.com> wrote, re: Fair Radio and 390A shipping  
>  
>>One warning, tho. Anybody ordering a unit may inquire as to possibly paying  
>>a bit extra for proper packing?  
>  
>May I jump in to support that idea? I've just taken delivery of a  
>beautiful black-face R-390A mounted in an equally beautiful contrasting

>grey cabinet. But it arrived via UPS with shipping damage. It's still a Black face? I was considering redoing one of my 390A front panels with a white lettering on black background motif. Strictly for my unit that will shortly spout some additional positions on some of the switches <g>. Was a black 390A ever produced in a manufacturing production run?

Anyway, glad yours arrived without too much damage. These things definitely need a wooden crate shipping container, or some very dense packed spray foam separating inner from outer cardboard boxes..

73! - Mark, NE9G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995

From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>

Subject: Re: Black Face R390A?

Message-ID: <91338.ddillman@igc.apc.org>

On Mon, 10 Jul 1995 23:29:15 -0500,  
Mark Shaum <mshaum@xnet.com> wrote:

>Black face? I was considering redoing one of my 390A front panels with a  
>white lettering on black background motif. Strictly for my unit that will  
>shortly spout some additional positions on some of the switches <g>. Was a  
>black 390A ever produced in a manufacturing production run?

I find the shiny black panel with white lettering to be very attractive, especially in the grey case. This one has been repainted but according to Les Locklear (see recent ER in which a picture of him and this radio appears) it was originally manufactured as a black panel radio. The story is that a small number of these were made for non-traditional intercept purposes. I'd be happy to hear from any R-390A historians who can confirm or deny this story.

Best Regards,

Dick Dillman/WPE2VT  
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
San Francisco

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995

From: Dave Horsfall <dave@esi.COM.AU>

Subject: Re: Broadcasting in the Blackout

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950711163921.10812G-100000@eram.esi.com.au>

On Thu, 6 Jul 1995, Dick Dillman wrote:

> So that's my account of my strangest BCB listening experience. Any  
> other contributions?

Not quite in the same vein, but perhaps close...

I'm the station engineer for VK2WI (amateur broadcast station, sort of like W1AW except we listen before we transmit:-) and one day, just before broadcast time, someone decided to "fix" something in the console. The system dropped dead shortly thereafter (after this bloke had departed of course; not a light or anything. You can imagine the sort of language I was using...

It wasn't until afterwards I discovered that the (microprocessor) console had failed in such a way to open all microphones and key all transmitters...

Incidentally, we have three AWA J54-800 transmitters, with a glorious 500 watts on AM, on 160m, 80m and 40m; all hollow-state of course.

--

Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU) | dave@esi.com.au | VK2KFU @ VK2AAB.NSW.AUS.OC | PGP 2.6  
Opinions expressed are mine. | E7 FE 97 88 E5 02 3C AE 9C 8C 54 5B 9A D4 A0 CD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995

From: rrh@twics.com

Subject: Collins 51S-1 Parts Wanted

Message-ID: <00993365.19F30200.19@tanuki.twics.com>

I am repairing my Collins receiver 51S-1 and looking for the following parts to complete. I would greatly appreciate if you could share one of these parts with me or advise me of a source info.

1. FL-1 Loww Pass Filter: Part No. X269-1
2. AF Gain Control: Part No. TR8169

73, JA1DOD/WB60BD

Roger

rrh@twics.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@gtetel.com>  
Subject: Diode Detector Fil. Voltage  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950710224750.gyoungma@gyoungma.gtetel.com>

Anyone know why typical BA diode detectors (e.g. 6h6) are run at reduced filament voltage? In my HR0-60 and HQ-160 the detector tubes are run at 5.0 rather than the rated 6.3V on the filaments.

Grant/NQ5T

gyoungma@gtetel.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: "Rhett T. George" <rth@ee.duke.edu>  
Subject: Re: Diode Detector Fil. Voltage  
Message-ID: <199507111846.0AA44103@ee.duke.edu>

- Grant -

I have not looked inside the HR0-60 (I have scarcely seen one.), but the diode detector for AM is very similar thru a large bunch of radios. The R & C which filter out the intermediate frequencies from the audio are present in most all detectors. That RC product is likely near 20 us. If the product is too large, it will cause loss of amplitude and add distortion. Too large means that the capacitor will not discharge fast enough to allow the audio waveform to follow the envelope of the IF.

A dual-channel scope with audio on one channel and IF on the other, synched to the audio, should give a fine clue to the difficulty.

I'll be glad to share some more thoughts with you on this problem.

73

Rhett - KE4HIH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>  
Subject: Drake 2-NT is full break-in.  
Message-ID: <9507120244.AA01451@kali>

I just tried out my Drake 2-NT transmitter with the delay knob cranked all the way down. This little guy will do full break-in.

The 2-NT is a 75W crystal controlled CW-only transmitter. Nice features: built in antenna relay, built in power supply, sidetone, break-in, and 80-10 coverage. Also has two crystal socket sizes on the front panel.

This is in response to what the List was discussing a while back, about which rigs could do break-in. The 2-NT relay kicks back in faster than I can make dots on a hand key.

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
Subject: Re: Fair Radio and R390A's..  
Message-ID: <82698.ddillman@igc.apc.org>

On Mon, 10 Jul 1995 18:08:18 -0500,  
Mark Shaum <mshaum@xnet.com> wrote:

>One warning, tho. Anybody ordering a unit may inquire as to possibly paying  
>a bit extra for proper packing?

May I jump in to support that idea? I've just taken delivery of a beautiful black-face R-390A mounted in an equally beautiful contrasting grey cabinet. But it arrived via UPS with shipping damage. It's still a beauty and the damage is repairable, but it breaks your heart to think what they must of done to create the damage they did. Of course, the '390A is not exactly what we'd call delicate and it worked wonderfully out of the box.

This particular radio was very well packed: double boxed with plenty of styrofoam all around. So, even though this is the first problem I've ever had with UPS, you can't pack a treasure too carefully.

Another hint: UPS informed me (too late) that in order to make a claim for shipping damage you have to KEEP THE SHIPPING MATERIAL for them to inspect. Maybe everyone but me knows this, but if your BA ever arrives damaged, keep the box(es).

Best Regards,

Dick Dillman/WPE2VT

<ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
San Francisco

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <j38@clark.net>  
Subject: Re: Fair Radio and R390A's..  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950711000023.3262B-100000@clark.net>

On Mon, 10 Jul 1995, Dick Dillman wrote:

> May I jump in to support that idea? I've just taken delivery of a  
> beautiful black-face R-390A mounted in an equally beautiful contrasting  
> grey cabinet. But it arrived via UPS with shipping damage. It's still a  
> beauty and the damage is repairable, but it breaks your heart to think what  
> they must of done to create the damage they did. Of course, the '390A is  
> not exactly what we'd call delicate and it worked wonderfully out of the  
> box.

Here (Northern Virginia) UPS requires that you let them OPEN THE BOX and let them inspect the contents before they'll accept it. Unfortunately it makes the line move v-e-e-e-ry slowly and totally wastes all the Nylon filament tape you might use to hold the box together. But I would NEVER consider booby-trapping the box so that foam peanuts will shower the UPS employee opening the box. ;-)

73,  
Tony  
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>  
Subject: Re: Fair Radio and R390A's..  
Message-ID: <9507111133.AA11337@jupiter>

Dick (and anyone on BA) -- how common was the black-faced R-390A? I repainted one myself that way, but I was wondering if this was a legit military color and if so, who they made them for.

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)  
Subject: Re: Fair Radio and R390A's..  
Message-ID: <9507111402.AA21736@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>

>  
>Dick (and anyone on BA) -- how common was the black-faced  
>R-390A? I repainted one myself that way, but I was wondering  
>if this was a legit military color and if so, who they made  
>them for.

Obviously they were meant for classified programs. The term "black" is used in pentagon parlance to mean not only classified, but also "unknown to anyone not actually in the program".

I'd suggest you put your affairs in order. They are probably coming to take you away.

: - )

-- Roy --  
Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899  
(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)  
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov  
---

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
Subject: Re: Fair Radio and R390A's..  
Message-ID: <40347.ddillman@igc.apc.org>

On Tue, 11 Jul 1995 06:34:51 -0500,  
Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com> wrote:

>Dick (and anyone on BA) -- how common was the black-faced  
>R-390A? I repainted one myself that way, but I was wondering  
>if this was a legit military color and if so, who they made  
>them for.

Mine is the only one I've seen or heard of. I'm hoping one of our colleagues can answer those questions for both of us.

Best Regards,

Dick Dillman/WPE2VT  
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
San Francisco

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: "MELUCAS, MARC P." <MELUCAS@wsmc-mis.af.mil>  
Subject: Flagstaff, AZ Anyone?  
Message-ID: <199507111643.LAA26078@uro.theporch.com>

Hello Gang-

Anyone else besides me planning to attend the Ft. Tuthill 'fest in Flagstaff, AZ this coming 21 - 23 July?? Any words of wisdom as to the reputation of this 'fest, and what to expect, or not expect?

The info packet that came in the mail had some potentially disturbing news: "Arizona Sales Tax Regulation Will Be In Effect". Further reading revealed that commercial vendors \*AND\* tailgaters will be required to buy a sales tax license for a one-time \$12 fee. My gut reaction to this is that such a policy may reduce the number of tailgaters, and/or drive up prices among the tailgaters (to recoup the cost of that sales tax fee). Any thoughts????

Marc, KB0JPQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: Jodaanve@aol.com  
Subject: FS and free books gone!  
Message-ID: <950711180733\_112685053@aol.com>

Sorry guys;

I didn't realize how many people were interested in this stuff. Due to the number of inquiries I won't be able to respond directly, but would like to thank everyone for their interest.

73

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Dave Creek <dcreek@pixi.com>  
Subject: Re: FS: BC-640 TX  
Message-ID: <Pine.PCW.3.91.950710135631.7807A-100000@dip070.pixi.com>

On Mon, 10 Jul 1995, David Ross wrote:

> Attention, attention, seekers of gross avoirdupois...  
>  
> A neighbor of mine is selling off her husband's estate prior to moving.  
> Going through her shop I found a BC-640 (WWII/Korean VHF AM xtal-controlled  
> TX in 6 foot 19" rack) which may appeal to someone out there. The manual  
> with the set says Philco BC-640, but the radio itself has Bendix tags and  
> some red painted brass labels with a British look to them. (The manual  
> isn't a military TM-11-XXX type, & the radio's tags don't mention BC-640, so  
> the radio may be a commercial version.)

All of the BC-640's I ever saw were built by Bendix. The original contract was for the British Air Ministry and had tags with a crown and the letters A and M flanking the crown and a type number rather than the US designation.

The manual is the Philco "tech rep" manual. The military manuals were a reprint of this with a military T.O. number on the cover.

One thing to check, the bottom of the PA deck must have a cover plate with a square hole cut in it. This allows coupling from the driver plate tank to the PA grid tank. Without this plate, the rig wont tune.

I worked on many of these rigs in the 50's and 60's. Next to the BC-610, they were the best TVI generators I ever saw.

73 es Aloha,

Dave Creek, NH6BA  
Ewa Beach, HI  
dcreek@pixi.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: rmmiller@netcom.com (Robert M. Miller)  
Subject: FS: dc-ac inverter 28dc-115vac/400hz  
Message-ID: <199507110547.WAA10353@netcom12.netcom.com>

Posted this earlier in the day, but guess "theporch" was down. Anyway, I've got a few Collins 488A-2 inverters, maintenance spares for the Collins 618T(3). Good 200 VA 115 vac 400 hz source to get boat anchors like the 618S and 490T tuners up and alive with their 400 hz servos. \$75 plus UPS on approximately 14 lbs from zip code 95827. With schematic and theory data copied from ARC-102 manual.

Bob Miller, KE6F  
9655 Appalachian Dr.  
Sacramento CA, 95827  
(916) 362-5481  
[rmmiller@netcom.com](mailto:rmmiller@netcom.com)

73

Bob

From [boatanchors@theporch.com](mailto:boatanchors@theporch.com) Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com  
Subject: Re: FS: hallicrafters SR-500 "Tornado"  
Message-ID: <9507111857.AA10363@bock.ih.att.com>

Hate to sound like a nitpicker, but isn't 500W PEP about double what a pair of 6146s can do? Seems that generally a 6146 is 75-90W CW or AM, a pair is your typical exciter doing 150W or 300W PEP.

So I'd think 500W PEP is asking a bit much. Maybe not, if you don't use a speech compressor, run RTTY thru it, or assume it's OK to load up to 250W on CW.

Also maybe the 8236 originals were beefier than 6146s. Anyway, I'd be happy to run 250-300W PEP with this box -- too bad I'm not up to ship it from CA to IL. I'd certainly jump on it at a local swap. 73, mike k

From [boatanchors@theporch.com](mailto:boatanchors@theporch.com) Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: jml@spider.lloyd.com (Jim Lockwood)  
Subject: Re: FS: hallicrafters SR-500 "Tornado"  
Message-ID: <m0sVknI-0010f8C@spider.lloyd.com>

At 01:57 PM 7/11/95 CDT, Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com wrote:  
>Hate to sound like a nitpicker, but isn't 500W PEP about double  
>what a pair of 6146s can do?

Oh, almost certainly. I'm sure this SR-500 doesn't do anything like 500 Watts with the 6146s, and didn't mean to imply that it did. My thinking is that a previous owner did the 6146 conversion in recognition of the price difference between 6146s and 8236s, not for power considerations.

>  
>Also maybe the 8236 originals were beefier than 6146s.

8236 tubes are rated at 50W plate dissipation compared to, what, about 30 Watts for a 6146B?

Sorry for any confusion about power levels, gang. Absolutely unintentional.

Also, someone else pointed out that while I mentioned that this was a tri-band rig, I didn't point out which three bands it covers. They are 80, 40, and 20. It automagically selects LSB on 80 and 40 and USB on 20.

73,

Jim - km6nk

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: Sean McCarthy <smccarth@macomb.lib.mi.us>  
Subject: FS: HQ-170A w/SPKR  
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91.950711190754.17785A-100000@macomb.lib.mi.us>

POSTING FOR A FRIEND

Hammarlund HQ-170A, looks and works good, with matching speaker.  
I think the speaker is the S-200, being 12"x12".  
\$225 plus shipping

Call for further details.

Paul Biliti  
n8iez  
(810)773-9655

--  
Sean McCarthy smccarth@macomb.lib.mi.us  
.lookin' for a solid state Trans-Ocianic, SX42/62, CV157 and 51J-4

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Steve Ellington <n4lq@iglou.com>  
Subject: FS: HQ-170C with SPKR  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950710225841.21597A-100000@iglou.iglou.com>

Sale HQ-170C with Matching Speaker  
Front panel and cabinet in excellent condition. Very clean all over.  
Clock works

Just aligned and it's very hot!  
Manual included

\$225 plus shipping from Louisville, Ky

I've seen a lot of 170's and had one back in 1965. This is as clean as they come.

Steve  
n4lq@iglou.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: wb4ijn@awod.com (Steve Thomason)  
Subject: FS: HQ170A, R-390  
Message-ID: <199507111832.0AA19865@sumter.awod.com>

I have an extra HQ-170A that I am not using anymore. Excellent cosmetic condition, front panel and cabinet. No clock. I have an extra clock if anybody wants to add it. \$25 for the clock if you buy the 170A. Clock not for sale by itself. \$165 plus shipping costs.

I'm not interested in military rigs anymore, so I am selling my R-390. It has the top cover. When I got it several months ago I retubed it and aligned it and it works great. Also put a new commercial duty power cord on it. \$225 plus shipping.

73, Steve, WB4IJN

Internet: wb4ijn@awod.com  
Packet: WB4IJN@N4CII

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: Jodaanve@aol.com  
Subject: FS: NC-98 w/speaker  
Message-ID: <950711170427\_30550622@aol.com>

Hi gang:

As the header indicates I have a clean National NC-98 in good working order FS. It includes the matching speaker, not as good cosmetically as the receiver and the original operators manual.

For those not familiar with this model it was produced from 1954-56, covers .55-40mhz, bandspread dial for amateur bands, 9 tubes, xtal filter and BFO. Asking \$125 OBO e-mail direct to Jodaanve@aol.com

73,

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: Joe Reda/HQ/3Com <Joe\_Red@3mail.3Com.COM>  
Subject: Re: FS: R390/URR PRICE REDUCED  
Message-ID: <9507111457.AA8059@hqsmtp.ops.3com.com>

IMVHO (in my very humble opinion) Steve has brought his R390A's price down to reality. Don't want to re-ignite the thread about BA prices, but I've been seeing way too many R390As on here with prices in the \$350-450 range. Let's not allow this radio to get priced out of everyone's range . . I don't think that's what our hobby is about? I know all the stuff about supply & demand; but again this is a hobby we're talking about, not Wall St. economics.

<soapbox mode off>

73, Joe KC6TXU

----- Previous Message -----

cc:  
From: n4lq @ iglou.com (Steve Ellington) @ UGATE  
From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
Subject: FS: R390/URR PRICE REDUCED

Price reduced from \$375 to \$225 for quick sale. Will ship if u pay.

Steve  
n4lq@iglou.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <j38@clark.net>  
Subject: Re: FS: R390/URR PRICE REDUCED  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950711124714.260D-100000@clark.net>

On Tue, 11 Jul 1995, Joe Reda/HQ/3Com wrote:

> IMVHO (in my very humble opinion) Steve has brought his R390A's price  
> down to reality. Don't want to re-ignite the thread about BA prices, but  
> I've been seeing way too many R390As on here with prices in the \$350-450  
> range. Let's not allow this radio to get priced out of everyone's range .  
> I don't think that's what our hobby is about?

There are two basic prices for everything. There's "as is" and  
essentially NOS. Virtually evry time I've bought a "bargain", I've ended  
up spending much more to restore it than I would have if I had waited and  
paid top dollar for a pristine specimen. What the hobby is about is  
defined by what it meas to us individually.

I've given a lot of stuff away that I know I could have sold for a profit,  
but when I have, or have let something go for less than the going market  
price, I have to wonder if the person I'm letting have it will turn around  
and make the profit for themselves. However, when I buy or swap with  
other hams, I do so with the assumption that they have similar interests  
to mine. Unfortunately, I have been burned before when somebody has told  
me how much they want something and I've given it to them or sold below  
the going price just to have them turn around and sell it for a profit the  
next day. Dealing with a professional (sic) trader is usually easier for  
me because all the cards are on the table and we can bargain between the  
two of us strictly on the basis of dealing in commodities.

I paid (coincidentally) \$390 to Rick Mish to have him rebuild my R-390A,  
so if you take that, add the approximate acquisition cost (via trades,  
etc.) and the CY-979A cabinet project, and I'll have \$750-plus in mine.  
Interestingly, Rick had a rebuilt one that he was asking \$750 for,  
but I thought that was too much. I would have been much better off  
to have bought that one.

Could I ever hope to get that back out of it? It's not bloody likely that  
I can get \$300-400 out of it, but I didn't buy it and go through all the  
effort to have it done over to sell. I've wanted a pristine R-390A since  
I saw the first on back in about 1964 and now I have one.

73,  
Tony  
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: Jodaanve@aol.com  
Subject: FS: Vacuum Capacitor  
Message-ID: <950711191212\_30641255@aol.com>

BA gang,

I have an Amperex VC-50 fixed vacuum capacitor that is not needed. If you have a need please make an offer directly via e-mail.

Thanks

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Dave Horsfall <dave@esi.COM.AU>  
Subject: Re: Great East Coast Blackout--FYI  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950711165902.10812H-100000@eram.esi.com.au>

Wasn't a warship used somewhere to jump-start a power plant?

--  
Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU) | dave@esi.com.au | VK2KFU @ VK2AAB.NSW.AUS.OC | PGP 2.6  
Opinions expressed are mine. | E7 FE 97 88 E5 02 3C AE 9C 8C 54 5B 9A D4 A0 CD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: haynes@cats.ucsc.edu (Jim Haynes)  
Subject: Headphone cordage ?  
Message-ID: <199507102359.QAA12033@hobbes.UCSC.EDU>

I have one of those WWII Air Force headsets, the kind with two leather-covered headbands and a waxed fabric cord coming down to a PL-54 that plugs into a JK-26 cord with a PL-55 on the end. Now this latter cord is rubber covered, and the rubber is going the way old rubber goes. Does anybody have a good replacement for this stuff? It's a lot more flexible than typical rubber-covered power cord.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: Dave Creek <dcreek@pixi.com>  
Subject: Re: Headphone cordage ?  
Message-ID: <Pine.PCW.3.91.950711003706.8359B-100000@dip045.pixi.com>

On Mon, 10 Jul 1995, Jim Haynes wrote:

> I have one of those WWII Air Force headsets, the kind with two leather-covered  
> headbands and a waxed fabric cord coming down to a PL-54 that plugs into  
> a JK-26 cord with a PL-55 on the end. Now this latter cord is rubber  
> covered, and the rubber is going the way old rubber goes. Does anybody have  
> a good replacement for this stuff? It's a lot more flexible than typical  
> rubber-covered power cord.

>

All of the old mike and headset cords, including the waxed fabric and the  
rubber covered cords were made with what is called tinsel wire. The  
individual conductors are a thin copper foil tape, spirally wrapped  
around a cotton string and insulated with rubber. Tinsel wire is  
extremely flexible, even more than test lead wire.

There is only one problem, this wire is almost impossible to solder.  
I have seen soldered connections made by carefully stripping the rubber  
insulation, winding a very fine wire around the tape and string like  
serving the end of a rope, and soldering with a low wattage iron and good  
solder. Some time this works and most of the time it doesn't. YMMV.

The regular method of connection was a small crimp-on ring lug which had  
several teeth that penetrated the rubber insulation and made contact  
with the foil conductor. These were applied with a special pair of pliers  
or in the case of the telephone company, with a special bench mounted  
tool. After the lugs were attached to the cord, they were fastened to the  
plug with small brass screws that had a hole in the center of the slot.  
A special jewelers type screwdriver was used that had a spring loaded  
tapered pin that fit in the hole and allowed the screw and the lug to be  
aligned with the threaded hole in the jack or plug and screwed down.

Other than Fair Radio for the original headset extension cables, a  
possible source would be old telephone switchboard cords. These were  
mostly cloth covered and used the same wire and connector lugs.

I just looked in an old Newark Electronics catalog and found two belden  
coiled cords. Belden 9468 and 9469 which may work, but are not cheap.

73 es Aloha,

Dave Creek, NH6BA

Ewa Beach, HI.  
dcreek@pixi.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
Subject: RE: Headphone cordage ?  
Message-ID: <n1406660609.37170@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Why not try an electronics wire distributor who would have mike cable? It is available in rubber covered shielded pair. Might be a bit more stiff because of the shield. However, you would have to find old stock, as the newer mike cables in Belden Wire Catalog are all PVC or poly or something called Datalene insulation except for a large audio and studio control "snake" cable which was neoprene. I am afraid the realities of technology are about to close some authentic restoration routes, unless you find a small vendor willing to make up reproductions of fabric cable, or rubber cables, etc. Check the surplus electronics companies who may have government stocks or wire reels to resell. There is a small guage power rubber covered paired wire, about #16, is that too stiff for you?

--Stuart K5Kvh

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: Steve Ellington <n4lq@iglou.com>  
Subject: HQ-170 & SPKR SOLD  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950711103804.21941A-100000@iglou.iglou.com>

SOLD and rather quickly at that. Thanks! 73

Steve  
n4lq@iglou.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: Randyc3@aol.com  
Subject: HQ180 Alignment help  
Message-ID: <950711143400\_30447000@aol.com>

I recently "tripped over" an marginally working HQ180 locally, after 5 month of trying to find one on AOL and the net. Anyway, it is now clean (removed 20 years of garage dust and smoke residue), and retubed so that it now is working resonably well. It is out of alignment, the sensitivity is no where

near what my friends unit is.

I touched up the if with an RF gen and voltmeter per the manual, and it is now working well. Next step is to deal with the dial calibration. I was experimenting on one of the bands to set the hf osc.

Question. - How do you adjust the osc to get a linear accuracy? If I set the high and low, the center of the band is not accurate. If I set at the 1/3 - 2/3 points the center is OK, but the ends of the bands are pretty far out.

Suggestions?

Thanks

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995

From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>

Subject: Re: HQ180 Alignment help

Message-ID: <199507112011.PAA06934@zoom.bga.com>

As Roy Morgan said

>  
>  
> >Question. - How do you adjust the osc to get a linear accuracy?  
>  
> Ask Hank VanCleef (if he doesn't volunteer.)  
>  
> One technique is to bend the sections of the end plates of the oscillator  
> variable cap section. (I think you bend each section when it is one-half  
> meshed, and do it over and over again till it comes close enough.) Each  
> section can be bent in two ways: in and out at its outer edge, and twisted  
> so the center doesn't move but the ends move in different directions.  
>  
> Right Hank? (copy to him)  
>  
> \*I\* want to know, too - I've got a number of non-PTO receivers to work on\*,  
> and dial accuracy is one of the fine points I want to fuss with.  
>

I figured somebody'd "volunteer" me on this. While I've addressed tracking in three or four radios recently, there are a lot of variables that can affect it in a radio that has been around forty or fifty years. I can only assume that the front end of an HQ-180 is similar in mechanical construction to that in my HQ-150, which tracks fairly well (one needle width error is about the worst anywhere).

First of all, don't try to align at the ends of the tuning range. Pick points about 20% from the ends.

Secondly, take a look at the positioning of the tuning dial on the shaft. Hammarlund put fiduciary marks on their dials, but you may need to move the thing slightly.

Thirdly, if the coils and capacitors are covered with crud, clean them up. Taking coil boxes apart and dealing with individual components is a chore, but it did wonders for my RME-45. It will also give you a chance to visually inspect for attempts to "improve" the alignment by poking at winding spacings with a soldering aid. Hammarlund, National, and RME wound their own coils, and the originals should fall right in place if they are in as-originally-wound condition. Unfortunately, part of their assembly process did include moving coil turns slightly to increase or decrease inductance, and that can be difficult to spot as "factory" vs. "hacker" stuff.

If one or two bands align horribly, and the rest of them are right on, check any fixed caps used for padding on those bands.

One very important thing---all the shields have to be in place when doing the final alignment. In some cases, this means putting the radio into its cabinet, logging the errors, then opening it up, finding where the same frequency points fall with the radio open, and correcting by the error recorded when you logged the errors with the thing fully assembled.

And I'll save for last, the most important low point of all---signal generator accuracy. You need to check everything against WWV, and use a crystal calibrator (checked against WWV). Aligning my S-36A, I had to go through the drill of using the RME-45 to get WWV, checking my 1 Mhz crystal against it. Then I set the RME by the crystal to an appropriate frequency, tuned the signal generator VFO to it, and used the second and third harmonics of that VFO frequency to check two points on the dial---this WITHOUT touching the signal generator VFO. For example, get the generator VFO accurately tuned to 14 Mhz., then check the S-36A at 28 and 42 Mhz. If you do not use harmonics of a single frequency to check multiple points, you're whistling in the dark.

The gimmick of bending segmented cap plates to get tracking accuracy is particularly applicable to home-entertainment and Hallicrafters sets, built with off-the-shelf broadcast components. I don't recall whether Hammarlund's caps have segmented plates or not. They built their own, very high quality, and the one adjustment that is important with Nationals and Hammarlunds is to assure that the cap rotor is centered in the stator (a feeler gauge check, done at several points).

You need to understand the theory of operation of all the RF and LO stage circuits, and what components will affect what. Generally, if

most bands align well and you've got severe problems on one or two bands, you will need to deal with the circuits in those bands, and this may involve adding padding caps or additional loading of the coils, but with a Hammarlund, the whole thing should fall into place if all the components are in good condition.

Getting a good, solid, accurate alignment is an arduous task, and you will find yourself walking back and forth, back and forth. I generally work at it an hour or two at a time, then do something else for a while, because after a couple of hours of walking back and forth on the dial, I start screwing up generator settings or something else. Accuracy in your technique, and studious attention to detail, is absolutely mandatory if you are going to do a good job.

Worth noting here that if the set is to be used principally on a few frequencies, such as the ham bands, and not for "general coverage," aligning the set on the frequencies normally used and accepting the errors elsewhere will give you good performance.

--

\*\*\*\*\*  
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com  
\*\*\*\*\*

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: BRICKEY\_PETER@Tandem.COM  
Subject: ITT Mackay mdl 3010-C and Foothill  
Message-ID: <199507111705.AA9529@comm.tandem.com>

Hi;

While browsing at Foothill last weekend I happened across a fellow who was unloading a bunch of junk from the back of his pickup. As he reached the bottom, I noticed a interesting piece that looked like a radio. It looked complete but dirty and when asked for a price he replied \$5.00.

Well it went home with me and now I would like to get some info on it. It is an ITT MacKay Marine receiver mdl 3010-C. It covers from 70Kc to 30Mc in 15 2Mc bands; receives AM, SSB and CW; uses 2 Collins mechanical filters (500 cycle & 3.1Kc which are identical to the filters in my 75A-4). It has a very interesting dial simular to the film strip dial of the Racal RA-17 series, except that instead of a film strip the dial is printed on a fabric strip.

The radio is cleaning up nicely and will be in great condition when finished. I would really like to get a copy of the manual and any

other information about it.

More on Foothill:

For some reason there did not seem to be a lot of buyers at this swap, but there were a lot of sellers. Some items I observed:

B&W 5100 transmitter with manual, nice clean rig	\$100	sold
Gonset G66B mobile receiver with 110v AC supply	25	I bought
Hammarlund SP-400 and pwr supply	?	
Johnson Pacemakers (2)	200	sold
1 was a parts set, no knobs otherwise all there other was a working rig, very nice condition		

Thats about all of the BAs. There was a lot of high end audio BAs there, but I don't pay much attention to those.

73's

Peter KD6KDR

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: Dave Stinson AB5S/7 <72227.1640@compuserve.com>  
Subject: J-36 BUG HELP  
Message-ID: <950711043623\_72227.1640\_EHM45-3@CompuServe.COM>

While I'm on my beloved J-36:

I'm working on rebuilding this key and it has  
a few problems.

The chrome on some of the parts is beginning to  
flake and spot. Does anyone know anything about  
replateing chrome parts? Do those chrome plating  
brushes you hook to a battery really work?

Secondly, the dit contactor is beginning to lose  
its "bounce," making dit adjustment very difficult.  
Does anyone have any experiance with this? Is the  
problem with the old springs or perhaps the  
U-shaped piece that holds the dit contact on the  
swing arm?

Lastly, has anyone had any luck filling holes in  
wrinkle paint? I've had some luck on large

cabinets where it's hard to spot, but it would not be so hidden on the key.

Thanks!  
Dave Stinson AB5S/7  
Lost Wages, Nevada

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>  
Subject: Re: J-36 BUG HELP  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507110647.C6365-0100000@indy1>

Hi!

On Tue, 11 Jul 1995, Dave Stinson AB5S/7 wrote:  
> [...] J-36:  
> [...] The chrome on some of the parts is beginning to  
> flake and spot.

I have always been told the plating on a J-36 (or at least the Lionel version thereof, look for holes for a long, skinny and missing plastic nameplate) was dark nickle, rather than chrome.

As for the brush-on plating kits, I've heard good things about them but haven't used them.

The bounceless dit spring may be problematic, but it would not surprise me if Vibroplex had something that would work, and very near original. It \*is\* just darned near a Lightning Bug, after all. Suppose it is possible to retemper it, but it would be very very tricky to end up with something of the proper degree of spring. ...Cheap pocket watches are a possible source of spring steel, though getting it out requires some caution! (That, I have done--wear gloves, work in a big coffee can, and protect your eyes; unwound, the spring isn't that strong but it's got some kick nevertheless!) Might try shim brass, too--though I think all of the flat springs are steel on these keys.

73,  
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995  
From: "Douglas Palmer Jedi" <palmerdo@plhp002.comm.mot.com>  
Subject: J-36 plating  
Message-ID: <9507111511.ZM15582@plhp451>

The plating on the J-36 should be nickel, not chrome.  
Anyway, chrome plating can NOT be done using the brush plating method.

I bought a brush plating kit from Texas Platers Supply recently, with the intent of re-plating some steel parts on an old Les Logan Speed-X bug. I was kind of surprised that the dot/dash contact supports, the damping wheel support, and all of the knurled nuts were made of steel, not brass like Vibroplex bugs. This was an old pre-war Speed-X bug. I have another one that was probably made during or after the war in which all the above-mentioned parts are nickel-plated brass.

Anyway, the kit produces an unbelievable finish. It looks as good as if it were done professionally by dipping. It does not take long to plate the parts; however, the parts must be perfectly clean: free of all oxidation and greases. Cleaning the part before plating is the most time consuming part of the job. Clear distilled vinegar is a really good degreaser. Also, you will want to get some distilled water to keep the brush clean during plating

I found that brass is about the easiest material to plate, because it is easy to clean with Brasso, or other metal polishes. Steel requires much more elbow grease to remove any oxidation or pits caused by oxidation. Also, steel must be plated with copper before being nickel plated, because nickel is a porous metal, and moisture from the atmosphere will cause the steel to rust right through the nickel. This is what happened with my old Speed-X key. It took me weeks to polish two parts to get them ready for plating. I found that a metal polish called PEEK works pretty well at polishing steel once it has been smoothed out with emory cloth.

Again, the kit works great. It only costs \$10. You will be amazed at the results if you take your time and properly prepare the part.

If anyone wants the address for Texas Platers Supply, send me an E-mail. Also, I have an article from a gun magazine that gives more detailed instructions on how to brush-plate.

73

Doug Palmer, KF4GI  
palmerdo@plhp002.comm.mot.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: durham@w2xo.pgh.pa.us (James C. Durham)  
Subject: Re: Johnson Challenger  
Message-ID: <199507110358.XAA18906@w2xo.pgh.pa.us>

Damon Z Cassell <dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu> wrote:

>I recently inherited a rather ratty looking Johnson Viking Challenger.  
>At first I thought it was beyond repair but after removing the case, I  
>realized that the electronics are quite clean and complete, minus one  
>missing tube and a burnt resistor.

>Firstly, could someone quickly run down the specs on this rig? How much  
>power, etc. I'm not familiar with the two tubes in the final. They  
>look like 6146's but I know that this is not the case...the markings  
>have rubbed off.

Wow, it's been a long time. I had a Challenger in the late 50's.  
Let's see. It ran about 100 watts. Can't remember what tubes.

>Also, the mode switch includes CW and phone. There is a 1/4" mono  
>jack on the back (I assume for a key?) and a single RCA jack. These  
>are the only two inputs(?) on this thing - how does one modulate it  
>for AM?

The AM is screen modulation, as I recall. You only get about 20 watts  
out on AM. I \*think\* you can plug a mike in the RCA jack. Try it.

>Second, could anyone provide me with a decent copy of a manual?

Sorry...

>Any info on the Challenger would be appreciated. Thanks.

I remember it worked pretty well if you plate modulated it. I took  
the power supply out on mine and replaced it with a mod transformer  
and a couple of 807's or 6BG6's (almost same thing). It worked  
very well. The original modulator circuit was lousy. It worked all  
the way up through 6 meters. It was basicly a CW rig with a phone  
afterthought.

73  
Jim, W2XO

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: Emil Switzer <SWITZER+\_E%A1%Electromagnetic\_Sciences@mciemail.com>  
Subject: Re Johnson Paint  
Message-ID: <41950711143614/0006082972NA2EM@MCIMAIL.COM>

To: Boatanchors

To: Damon Cassell

The fellow listed below was selling spray cans of Johnson maroon paint at Dayton this year. A friend of mine bought one and it gives a very good match to the dark maroon. I think he was getting about \$10 per can.

Kim Herron  
16141 24th Av  
Coopersville, MI 49404  
616-677-3706

Good luck  
73 Emil

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Peter.Ferrand@leotech.MV.COM (Peter Ferrand)  
Subject: KW Plate Modulator 4sale  
Message-ID: <805440474.F00001@leotech>

Fifteen years of taking up space in my garage is enough, so here goes:

When I bought this it was described to me as a homebrew kilowatt+ level plate modulator once used to modulate a pair of 4-400A's so I'll describe the unit with that assumption: I'm selling this as-is, since I haven't ever tried to use it, or even examine it 'til tonight.

Chassis is steel, 17" x 8" x 2". There's a 12 barrier terminal on one end, with most all pins used, several transformers as described below, a very odd contactor, and a couple tube sockets.

No tubes in the sockets and I don't know what kind of tubes they are - won't even guess. The two sockets are porcelain top-of-chassis mount type, and are for a four pin tube, with a bayonet-slot ring about 2" in diameter. The sockets are obligingly labelled "F" and "G". However, there are a total of four tube caps, presumably plate and grid, and one set of the caps is connected to the "G" terminal of the tube sockets. Hey, I didn't build it. Oh, one of the caps is broken but still usable. The plate caps presumptive are connected to good-size standoffs.

What we'll call the modulation transformer is hermetically sealed and bears the honored name of Technical Materiel Corp, TF 139.

It's 8" x7" x 5" and has a 22,000 ohm center tapped winding and a 10,000 ohm winding (that's what's stamped into the case).

I assume the input transformer is another hermetically sealed unit, this one UTC CG 59X, it's 4" x 3 1/4" dia round. There are a pair of open frame Thorardsen filament transformers.

The whole works weighs fifty pounds, and my garage is in Nashua, NH. I'll be happy (OK, resigned) to ship it, but that'll take buying a couple boxes.

It's dirty of course but shows no sign of damage. Send me \$60 plus shipping and hopefully it won't sit in your garage for the next fifteen years...

E-mail or call (603)889-1067 any time.

-Pete  
WB2QLL

\* Origin: NETIS Public Access Internet (603)432-2517 (1:132/189)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: MEC <danmec@inet.uni-c.dk>  
Subject: Re: KW-2000  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507111114.A25465-0100000@inet.uni-c.dk>

On Mon, 10 Jul 1995, Brien Pepperdine wrote:

> I was speaking on the phone with a ham regarding some matter on BAs, and  
> he related to me a problem I thought I might ask of the BA group on his  
> behalf.  
>  
> He had picked up a KW-2000 "the English Collins" and has found it fine on  
> SSB. However, he says he is suffering from about a 100 cycle chirp when  
> using it on CW. He says the power supply has checked out to be rock solid  
> in voltage delivery etc., and certainly has no modulation problems on ssb.

> So if anyone happens to have some experiene with the KW2000, problems,  
> fixes or implemented tweaks or mods re. cw keying chirp, I sure would be  
> glad to relay them on the the owner who has been quite helpful to me.  
>

Whenever you have a problem with British gear, youu have the option of the "HELP LINE" in Radcom, the journal of RSGB.

73 Rag 0Z8R0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
Subject: LF/VLF Listening  
Message-ID: <82726.ddillman@igc.apc.org>

>On Thu, 6 Jul 1995 18:37:42 -0500,  
>Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com <Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com> wrote:  
>  
>The noise down there is atrocious. I think a lopp antenna will get  
>a lot less noise. I fiure any0ne serious about this stuff needs  
>to buy a hunting cabin in Montana and run on batteries.

Indeed, and I've met a chap who did just that, although in the Big Sur area of California instead of Montana.

My friend down there had been telling me for years how there was this "radio guy" way back in from the coast that I should meet. What kind of radio was of course unknown. So on my way back to San Francisco from So. Cal. with my newly-purchased '58 Willys wagon, off we went for a visit. After much more than an hour of 4-wheelin' it, we arrived at the goat farm where this guy and his wife were caretakers.

Someone else may have noticed the orchard, cute farm house and spectacular scenery. I of course noticed the spidery antennas made of thin wires that were strung all over the place. The man was a true LF enthusiast.

Now, this was a place where visitors do not drop by. You must want to go there - and pretty badly too - to pay a visit. So visitors were rare, radio-oriented visitors more rare still, and radio-oriented visitors who understood what he was up to and would listen to his tapes of what sounded like static to everyone else, were unheard of.

So, as the wimmen chatted in the garden, he and I settled in for long chat, the playing of tapes and a bit of on-the-air knob twisting.

Let me tell you brothers and sisters, it was something. Miles away from the nearest power line, TV set or electrically operated device of any sort, the LF band was... quiet! Except of course for those noises generated by mom nature and the few stations operating down there. I heard my first whistlers, the dawn chorus, GWEN stations and, yes, LOWFER beacons in the experimental band. Needless to say, WWVL and the Omega stations pounded in.

For receivers, he had a home brew set plus a RBA! But the RBA had been severely modified with only the tuning circuits remaining and the rest replaced by solid state components (sorry, but it was for a good cause) so the thing could run off batteries.

I'm sure there is more recent data by now, but for those of you wishing to follow up on this, the person was Michael Mideke, POB 123, San Simeon, CA 93452. An excellent 5 part series by him describing his work in detail was published in The Lowdown, beginning in the July 1989 issue.

Best Regards,

Dick Dillman/WPE2VT  
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
San Francisco

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995

From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu

Subject: LM / BC-222 Freq. Range

Message-ID: <F7BG0952.F7BG1008@mail.admin.wisc.edu>

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

BC-221 and LM frequency meters have two fundamental ranges;

125 - 250 KHz

2000 - 4000 KHz

Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995

From: jproc@worldlinx.com

Subject: RE: LM / BC-222 Freq. Range

Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950711222945.jproc@jproc>

>to: boatanchors@theporch.com  
>  
> BC-221 and LM frequency meters have two fundamental ranges;  
>  
> 125 - 250 KHz  
>  
> 2000 - 4000 KHz  
>

Tom,

The subject field and text do not agree for BC22x. The frequency range for the BC221 is 125 khz to 20 Mhz. I don't know if there were other variants, but this freqency range definitely applies to the -AK,-D, and -M models.

Regards,

---

Jerry Proc VE3FAB  
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com  
Radio Restoration Volunteer  
HMCS Haida Toronto, Ontario

---

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>  
Subject: Manuals WTB  
Message-ID: <950711145621\_71333.144\_DHQ75-1@CompuServe.COM>

WANTED: RCA AR-88LF manual, schematic or any info  
Collins KWM-2A, 516F2 and 312B4 manuals  
RCA RBC Receiver Manual

Don, N3RHT: 412-234-8819 or here.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: List Admin/Owner BoatAnchor Mail List <listown@jackatak.theporch.com>  
Subject: Millist (and other files on the archiver)  
Message-ID: <9507110554.aa03129@jackatak.theporch.com>

Hello Jerry-

> Last week Terry O'Laughlin announced the posting of an updated  
> Millist on the archiver.

Yep, he sure did...

> Do you know if it's available for general access?  
Yes, I know, and yes it is! ;^)

Also, three files of navy equipment xrefs, a Nems-Clarke list, and a Vibroplex key chart. You may want to retrieve an index (again?) and see what else is there.

Phil has discovered the problem that resulted in empty files being returned (we think! ;^) so there should not be any problems in getting files. Just send an email to:

listproc@theporch.com

and in the body:

get boatanchors index  
or  
get boatanchors <file name>

and the list processor will mail the file to you.

Thanks for asking, and I hope you don't mind me posting the answer so everyone knows...

--  
73 DE Middle Tennessee -- 12 miles due South of Nashville!  
Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657/#1789 -- both all mobile! ;^)  
- - - BoatAnchor Mailing List Owner - - -  
listown@jackatak.theporch.com-"Plus ca change, plus c'est la même chose"

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: Jodaanve@aol.com  
Subject: Misc manuals FREE!!  
Message-ID: <950711112824\_30302754@aol.com>

Hi gang:  
I came across the following literature and small box of Sams Photofacts. All but one of these is FREE!!! All I ask is that you reimburse me for the postage.

Box of misc Sams Photofacts approx 1 cubic foot. These are mostly early radio and TV and not in their original folders. Will ship parcel post book rate.

TM 11-5030 Technical manual for TS-497A/URR signal generator.

TM-73 March 1970 73 Magazines Radio Surplus Conversion Issue.

ARRL Learning the Radiotelegraph Code Tenth Edition 1963

Meissner "How to Build" Instruction Manual Copyright 1943. This is in very nice condx and includes instructions for the "Signal Shifter", "Traffic Master" and others. Would like \$10 for this plus postage.

Please E-mail directly to Jodaanve@aol.com if interested

73,

Dave WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995

From: Dave Horsfall <dave@esi.COM.AU>

Subject: Re: National Panasonic???

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950710163818.301B-100000@eram.esi.com.au>

On Tue, 4 Jul 1995, Roberta J. Barmore wrote:

> Suspect the radio is either from the transitional period, or it was  
> made for UK/Europe or etc. If it's an oldie, it may have some collector  
> value. The transistor-set folks in r.a.r+p would know!

Well, they were as common as you-know-what around here, years ago...  
I probably have three or four "National Panasonic" transistor radios;  
and I think even a clock radio. Certainly was a common brand.

--

Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU) | dave@esi.com.au | VK2KFU @ VK2AAB.NSW.AUS.OC | PGP 2.6  
Opinions expressed are mine. | E7 FE 97 88 E5 02 3C AE 9C 8C 54 5B 9A D4 A0 CD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995

From: michael.moore@24stex.com

Subject: NEED INFO ON BANDMASTE

Message-ID: <9507111134.0G9G900@24stex.com>

RB>short: Among the nice things are two complete devices, a Harvey-Wells  
RB>Bandmaster Sr. (with PSU) (\$50) and a Millen tube-type GDO (\$40). Does  
RB>anyone have any tech info on these? (Did I overpay?)

I have seen them in questionable condition for 75-100 dollars. When I was

in high school; (circa 1958) I had several TBS-50c and d radios. Worked every TV within 4 miles on 6 meters. Even worked several stations on two meters with it. Boy were the H-W people optimistic about 2 meters with an 807!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995

From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com

Subject: Re: Need info on Bandmaster, Millen GDO

Message-ID: <9507111632.AA10052@bock.ih.att.com>

Fun stuff, Bobbi. For \$50 and under, you can't overpay on a decent BA unit; only your doctor who deals in back pains and hernias can tell you for sure :-)

Interesting that HW borrowed Halliscratcher's physical design idea -- put the hottest tubes right behind the front panel, away for the vent holes in the top, so that panel gets that nice warm feeling. SURE I like Halli, but those 6V6s up agin the front panel sorta make me wonder.  
--73, mike k

From boatanchors@the porch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995

From: MEC <danmec@inet.uni-c.dk>

Subject: Re: Oak Creek/ S. MKE. Fest

Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507111102.A25465-0100000@inet.uni-c.dk>

>

> Well, we had a beautiful day for the Oak Creek / South Milwaukee Hamfest. For  
> once it didn't rain.

>

> I like to think of this one as your basic "working class" hamfest, because the  
> number of dealers is exceedingly small, the computer geeks haven't taken over,  
> you see REAL, HONEST TO GAWD HAM GEAR IN ABUNDANCE, and most of it is reason-  
> ably priced.

TELEGRAPH KEYS

✓ (Unless otherwise noted, it followed me home)

>

VIBROPLEX DELUXE IAMBIC Fair condix. Need one, but owner

> wouldn't dicker. Screw it. \$65.00

VTRBOPLEX DELUXE MOD. NO. 1000 MARKINGS: Juke of the day. Cleaned up very nicely indeed.

VIBROPLEX DELUXE MOD. cleaned up very nicely indeed.  
LIGHTNING PLUG Late NYC production s/c in 318K

LIGHTNING BUD Late NYC production, still in SIGN range. One of the last of the NYC

> range. One of the last of the NC  
breed. Only bug seen all day.

>		(Owner WOULD
>		dicker!)
> SPEED-X (NEW) RECTANGLE Good condx. Silent Key sale.		ASK \$17.00
>       BASE HAND KEY		TOOK \$12.00
> SPEED-X (NEW) OVAL BASE Good. Condx. Needed another one		
>       STANDARD MODEL		\$5.00
> EL CHEAPO RADIO SHACK The ORIGINAL 98 cent hand key!		\$2.00
>       PLASTIC BASE Now getting kinda scarce		
> MILITARY J-38 Good shape. 2 tone metal		\$8.00
>		
>		
> Key prices are going INSANE, and bugs are starting to become quite scarce.		

FYI: Compared to European prices your keys are give-aways !!

73 Rag 0Z8R0

I

> think Wisconsin is about fished out for the key collector. The Deluxe Lightning  
 > Bug was a surprise; I jumped on it immediately, and if necessary I would have  
 > paid his \$65.00 asking price. Re. the odd sale price; I opened at \$50.00, and  
 > he kinda grinned and countered with \$53.00! I said I'd split the difference,  
 > and stood there fishing in my pockets for two quarters to make \$51.50 :-(

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995

From: doonan@cordmc.dnet.etn.com (Dennis Doonan x6916 (N9VSL))

Subject: RE: Oak Creek/ S. MKE. Fest

Message-ID: <9507111251.AA22600@etn.com>

Oak Creek is one of my favorites.

Also seen:

several yellow CD Gonset Communicators--most were unpriced and the  
 owner did not give out a price when asked!?

Heath SB401 mint condition, works great (I got it) \$40

Hallicrafters S-120 \$45 asking (sold for \$35 at noon)

Drake R4B/T4B/Speaker/power supply asking \$350 (sold Monday night for \$200)

Knight R-100 speaker only asking \$1000 (still unsold, obviously!!)

73 de Dennis

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995

From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>

Subject: Oregon BA Spots?

Message-ID: <80456.ddillman@igc.apc.org>

I'm heading for Oregon soon and wonder if there are any not-to-be-missed BA attractions anywhere within reasonable range of I-5? I'm looking for the usual: places that sell BAs, radio museums and of course any particularly obsessed colleague and reader of this list who might like to talk BAs for a bit.

Best Regards,

Dick Dillman/WPE2VT  
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
San Francisco

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <j38@clark.net>  
Subject: Original Condition  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950711081508.15704A-100000@clark.net>

I was reminded of something during a conversation about the rubber feet on my CY-979A (R-390 cabinet) with military collector over this past weekend. There were all kinds of modifications and repaints to all kinds of military gear once it left the manufacturer, so what is generally accepted as all original, doesn't necessarily mean that it's untouched.

For those not familiar with (my era) of levels of maintenance in the Army, they were designated 1 through 5. As I remember them, 1 an 2 was operator and unit maintenance (operation and minor repairs), 3 and 4 was field maintenance (fixing broken stuff and installing modification work orders <MWO's>) and 5 was depot maintenance. Depot maintenance could be major overhaul to a "rebuild" which was defned as being returning the equipment to specification with all MWO's installed. This by the way is a good way to tell what level of detail Army TM's have. TM's ending in "-12" don't tell you much, but "-15" should be a pretty comprehensive manual telling you how to remanufacture the unit.

Anyway, field maintenance (3 and 4) is where things started getting changed around. For example, the rubber feet on my cabinet mount were probably put on at a field maintenance unit to accomodate a particular installation. Not as it came out of the factory, but it's "original" nevertheless. The same goes for variations in color.

Citing specific examples from my own stellar 42 month career as an Army Ordnance officer assigned for a time at Tooele Army Depot (Utah) working with both Nike Hercules missile and small arms rebuild programs, I've seen

lots of "fixes" done to make something or other meet specification. Wood blocks were glued and pinned onto M-1 rifle stocks to bring them up to size for example. Also, a good many replacement parts were made by local contractors and some parts weren't exactly the same as the original they replaced, but as long as they fit where they were supposed to go and performed to specs. they were accepted. Also, paint schemes that were just close were often substituted for what the factory used. I'm sure that there were similar variations coming from the original manufacturers too.

On another occasion after I was reassigned to an artillery battalion in Germany, I was issued a pretty badly scratched up helmet. One day I saw an armored battalion's maintenance shop across from mine repainting an M-60 tank, so I took it over and had the GI spray it for me. The precise shade of OD was slightly different from the rest of the helmets in the Army, but it was close enough. That kind of thing happened all the time, so "original" colors and other military gear variations should be expected.

I hear that there are a good many R-390A modifications that were done at the field maintenance level, which accounts for occasional extra holes in the back panels. Some mods got around and became mandatory in some areas although some of them never became official MWO's.

I've beaten this to death, but I've heard (and participated in) lots of discussions about what is original and what isn't. My point is that "original" condition for militeray gear doesn't necessarily mean an item is a carbon copy of a picture in a manual.

73,  
Tony  
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Dave Stinson AB5S/7 <72227.1640@compuserve.com>  
Subject: PIECES PARTS J-38/J-36 KEYS  
Message-ID: <950711043051\_72227.1640\_EHM45-2@CompuServe.COM>

I guess my mailer went west, so I'll repost this.

I've got an extra J-38 key. I call it a "parter" since the shorting bar and the "line" plate are missing, but all the working parts are there. It's a Lionel nickle-plate model.

I'm working on refurbishing my J-36 bug.  
It's a Vibroplex, serial #12, and was

rescued from the Aleutians campaign. It's missing the screw thingy that holds the speed weight in place. I'd like to work out a trade with someone who wants a J-38. The J-36 is essentially a Lightening bug (with the square weights). If anyone has a speed weight securing screw I'd trade the J-38 for it.

Thanks,  
Dave AB5S/7

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: RANDY@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu  
Subject: please take for free  
Message-ID: <3CA17A62F31@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu>

I was recently given a radio chassis to offer to any interested person. This is for free - but you pick up or pay shipping (about 40 lbs) from Portland, OR:

A Majestic "Super Screen Grid Receiver", model 130A, serial number 13A, made by the Grigsby-Grunow Company, Chicago. It appears to be a broadcast band receiver. Was originally in a wood cabinet I suppose; I have only the chassis. It is full of 24A, 45, etc tubes.

The condition is poor - quite dirty chassis with some heavy corrosion in spots, but it seems to be mostly complete.

If it is value-less, please let me know and I'll slip it in the dumpster (after rescuing the tubes, which then will be available to anyone for free too!).

Cheers,

=Randy=

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: ejz@nosc.mil (Edward J. Zeranski)  
Subject: Re: please take for free  
Message-ID: <9507111531.AA27478@manta.nosc.mil>

>I was recently given a radio chassis to offer to any interested person. This  
>is for free - but you pick up or pay shipping (about 40 lbs) from Portland,  
>OR:  
>

>A Majestic "Super Screen Grid Receiver", model 130A, serial number 13A, made  
>by the Grigsby-Grunow Company, Chicago. It appears to be a broadcast band  
>receiver. Was originally in a wood cabinet I suppose; I have only the  
>chassis. It is full of 24A, 45, etc tubes.

>  
>Cheers,  
>  
>=Randy=

> Hello Randy, I had a Grunow like yours in the late '50s or early  
'60s and it was a nice little set . It was a floor model but only about 2/3  
the size of the other console radios I had. Back then I used to go to junk  
yards with my Dad and those types of radios could be hauled away as the  
scrapmetal value was low and dealing with them was a pain for the salvage  
guys. I had a LOT of radios and parts and a Gihardi(SP?)manual. Noone wanted  
the sets in the house anymore but the ones I fixed were sold to my Dads  
friends as shop or garage radios, couple of bucks for the kid. Some of the  
sets had shortwave bands and with a pipe sunk into the yard, 100 ft of wire  
in the trees, and a lightening arrestor from Allied I got to travel and pick  
up news that wasn't heard from John Cameron Swasey. I do feel priveledged in  
having the chance to experience those sets and a technology that was already  
being swept under the rug. 40+ years later I still 'play radios'.

Ed Zeranski This is a private message or opinion and has nothing to do  
with my employer or the US Govt. etc!!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Clark Fishman (FSAC) <cfishman@fsac3.pica.army.mil>  
Subject: Product detectorfor R390  
Message-ID: <95071100809.aa29323@FSAC3.PICA.ARMY.MIL>

For the R390 why not take the low impedance IF output and feed it to a  
SBL-1 double balanced diode mixer and either use the built in BFO  
or build a dedicated BFO for the product detector...you will need  
5 milliwatts into 50 ohms for the BFO signal

Clark Fishman WA2UNN cfishman@pica.army.mil

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Dave Horsfall <dave@esi.COM.AU>  
Subject: RE: Racal  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950711172757.10812J-100000@eram.esi.com.au>

[ A late reply, but no-one else corrected it... ]

On Thu, 15 Jun 1995 Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com wrote:

> I saw for the first time a used FRG-7 rcvr, and it seemed to work  
> in this pseudo-R390A manner -- you turned a little drum dial to  
> select the MC band, waited for a "LOCK" light to come on,  
> and then tuned with the KCs knob.

A lot of people seem to think this - dunno why. You tune it until the LED goes OFF. When you realise it's designed to be run from batteries (and the dial lamps can be switched off) it makes sense.

--

Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU) | dave@esi.com.au | VK2KFU @ VK2AAB.NSW.AUS.OC | PGP 2.6  
Opinions expressed are mine. | E7 FE 97 88 E5 02 3C AE 9C 8C 54 5B 9A D4 A0 CD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: List Admin/Owner BoatAnchor Mail List <listown@jackatak.theporch.com>  
Subject: Reposting when you don't have to...  
Message-ID: <9507110704.aa03985@jackatak.theporch.com>

Gang-

I'll make this quick and to the point...

> Posted this earlier in the day, but guess "theporch" was down.  
Actually, theporch was NOT down, but Phil was doing some maintenance  
and forgot to restart the List Processor before heading off to work.

He discovered his error and restarted, and ALL the waiting mail was posted to the list.

PLEASE, Gang. Just because your post doesn't come back to your mailbox in 5 minutes, DO NOT REPOST... The problem could be in several places: on your end, the Network Connection, the mail server database...

Give it a little time, and check the digest archives to see if it made it. I have enough to do without wading through a dozen rejected messages each day that are reposts from impatient people...

System Administrators make mistakes, and more often than not, a change is made (without adequate testing) that allows you to mail out, but rejects ALL attempts to mail back in... Try not to make the **\*first\*** assumption be that theporch has died... it hasn't. We have had the network go out, the ISDN line go away, our provider take a dump, but theporch has been remarkably stable.

PLEASE be patient, and remember: The BoatAnchors list is a hobby, and

is NOT so critical as to require reposts if mail doesn't flow immediately in real-time... (Addictive people, notwithstanding ;^)

--

73 DE Middle Tennessee -- 12 miles due South of Nashville!  
Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657/#1789 -- both all mobile! ;^)  
- - - BoatAnchor Mailing List Owner - - -  
listown@jackatak.theporch.com- "Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose"

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995

From: KANAMAA%AMGATE%MATRXA@randb.pprd.abbott.com

Subject: S. Milwaukee addendum

Message-ID: <01HSQMG1REA8ZH6YF@RANDB.PPRD.Abbott.Com>

From: Kana, Michael X.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995

Subject: S. Milwaukee addendum

Along with seeing Mr. T (Tom) and Terry O', I saw the following...

Collins 51S1 rack mount for 750\$ ! Sure was in nice shape.

LTV 30-260mc receiver in good condition for \$200

The table with the 7mc ARC 5 transmitter had some other command sets but they were gone pretty quickly.

I bought a couple of 160 meter crystals for 1\$ each.

I guess our work server is still up so thats why Im posting....

73 de AA9IL

Mike Kana

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995

From: haynes@cats.ucsc.edu (Jim Haynes)

Subject: sales tax

Message-ID: <199507120102.SAA17829@hobbes.UCSC.EDU>

Well I hope not to drag the list into an endless discussion of taxes and politics... but it seems like the problem here is the practical impossibility of writing a law that makes allowances for discretion and reasonableness.

If a flea market were limited to individuals selling or trading used stuff it would be easy for the law to exclude it. But then you get dealers who use the flea market essentially in lieu of a retail store, the kind of place where sales tax would ordinarily be charged. So if a person is in the business of buying stuff or making stuff to sell at flea markets for

a profit, should he be exempt from sales tax?

Similar issues have come up with garage sales: people who have a garage sale once in a lifetime versus those who have a garage sale every weekend, selling stuff that they have acquired for the purpose, or taking other people's stuff on consignment. So communities from time to time have passed laws limiting the frequency of garage sales at any one location, or requiring a tax payment for garage sales more frequent than some arbitrary number.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:27:00 1995

From: markem@primenet.com (Mark Monninger)

Subject: Re: Sales tax at hamfests

Message-ID: <199507120302.UAA14627@mailhost.primenet.com>

At 07:41 PM 7/11/95 -0500, TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu wrote:

>

>Re. the Arizona hamfest where State sales tax permits are to be required:

>

>A couple of years back some sh\*thead apparently got POed at one of the local  
>fests and called the Department of Revenue. The folks who bought tables then  
>received paperwork for the collection of taxes.

> ...

While admittedly not an expert on this, I had heard it was the guys who were obviously making a business of it that they were targeting. For example, one guy around here cranks out copper tubing 2M J-poles and brings 20 or so to swap meets. The Revenuers consider him to be a manufacturer and a business. The average Joe Ham peddling his junque once or twice a year is still considered to be an occasional seller and exempt from collecting sales tax, as are occasional yard/garage sales and kids selling lemonade on the sidewalk. Of course, there are grey areas but I think it's the real businesses that the that the revenuers are after. Again of course, they'll probably screw everyone in the process.

Anyway, I'll be at Ft. Tuthill, doing my VE thing and looking for bargains.

CUL..... Mark AA7TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995

From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu

Subject: Sales tax at hamfests

Message-ID: <F7BJ3955.F7BJ4006@mail.admin.wisc.edu>

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Re. the Arizona hamfest where State sales tax permits are to be required:

A couple of years back some sh\*tthead apparently got POed at one of the local fests and called the Department of Revenue. The folks who bought tables then received paperwork for the collection of taxes.

The fact that the government is beginning to go for small time stuff like hamfests is just an indication of how greedy the politicians are getting. Talk about blood from a turnip!

I personally think they're gonna regret ever getting involved, and eventually back off, at least for the non-dealer types. Hamfests are a can of worms that is best left unopened.

For example, I get a chunk of nondescript electronics out of a dumpster. I take it to a fest and swap it for a butchered BC-348Q that I wanted for parts. Some of the questions this transaction opens are;

1- What is the fair market value of the dumpster bait (a better question might be "what the hell IS this dumpster bait?"), and who determines said value? An interesting implication of this is that it could be possible that American industry might have to start providing (A) a fair market value for all the stuff it throws away, and (B) provide a means of tracking said stuff back to the outfit that tossed it, just to satisfy the tax man. The alternative to that could be a whole new bureaucracy of tax specialists who have some level of technical expertise, and extensive knowledge of the used electronics market. These bozos would swarm over hamfests (at taxpayer expense of course), attempting to evaluate every transaction that takes place.

Obviously, the same things are true for the butchered BC-348, so we've just dragged the entire Defense Department and GSA into the fray.

- 2- In what category is the dumpster bait to be taxed? Is it an inheritance? Is it a windfall / capital gains asset? Is it salvage of abandoned assets, like salvors claiming an abandoned ship in international waters (maritime law could start sneaking in here!)?
- 3- In the case of wildly unequal swaps, do you get taxed for the value of what you give, or for what you get?
- 4- How long will it be before these damned vultures start this crap on garage sales? Will PTA bake sales and Boy Scout troop car washes (neither of which is usually covered by a Federal 501c3 nonprofit organization incorporation charter) get bogged down under this silliness? How about the kid who sets up a lemonade stand?

The \$12.00 permit mentioned is obviously an attempt to avoid all of this and STILL take a tax bite, but in a lot of cases twelve bucks represents a

wildly unfair rate of taxation. Besides, there are ways to dodge it.

This past weekend I sold a receiver at a fest that I didn't have with me. The buyer wanted one, I said I had one, and we agreed to meet at my home later. If the tax permit scam was in effect at this hamfest, our transaction effectively circumvented it.

Ours is a terribly litigious society: some people like to watch lawsuits as much as NFL football! Even tho we're talking chicken feed money amounts here, SOMEBODY is eventually gonna get POed enough to try taking this to court, just for the fun of setting precedent with a test case!

"My advice for those who die,  
Declare the pennies on your eyes"

I dunno... maybe I'm full of it on this one :-)

Any of the Legal Eagles on the system care to comment?

73's,

Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:27:00 1995

From: durham@w2xo.pgh.pa.us (James C. Durham)

Subject: SP-400

Message-ID: <199507120300.XAA22326@w2xo.pgh.pa.us>

I have an SP-400. I'm not interested in selling it, just wondered what it was worth as a BA, out of curiosity. Anyone seen any of these for sale?

I have only the receiver, no cabinet, and the power supply is homebrew.

Condition? About average, some scratches, but everything's there and not broken.

73

Jim, W2XO

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995

From: Filip M Gieszczykiewicz <filip@smi.med.pitt.edu>

Subject: Surplus, USA

Message-ID: <9507120255.AA01147@alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu>

Greetings. Due to the number of e-mail that I have received from this and other lists, I'm posting this (updated-since-this-afternoon) list right here on the list. I won't do this again for a while so save it or learn to use the WWW->e-mail interface (I'll post that also, later).

Please, send me any additions and/or correction, etc. to me at:  
filip@alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu  
Thanks!

Take care.

P.S. Here's the WWW->e-mail gateway information. You can get up-to-date versions of the SURPLUS list with it and just plain e-mail!

-----chop-with-axe-----chop-with-axe-----  
Send e-mail to:

agora@mail.w3.org

with whatever subject you like and in the body of the mail put the command "SEND" and next to it the URL you want:

[USA surplus list - about 35KB]

SEND http://alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu:9000/TEMP/F\_surplus\_us.html

[CANADA surplus list - about 4KB]

SEND http://alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu:9000/TEMP/F\_surplus\_ca.html

[UK surplus list - about 8KB]

SEND http://alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu:9000/TEMP/F\_surplus\_uk.html

This will result in an e-mail message with the contents of that page!

To receive an e-mail message that explains the commands and other information, send the word "WWW" in body of the message to:

agora@mail.w3.org

-----chop-with-axe-----chop-with-axe-----

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:27:00 1995  
From: Filip M Gieszczykiewicz <filip@smi.med.pitt.edu>  
Subject: Surplus, USA - LIST V1.23  
Message-ID: <9507120308.AA01234@alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu>

Greetings. Here's the USA list. Please send e-mail to:

[filipl@alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu](mailto:filipl@alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu)

if you have any additions or corrections.

-----chop-with-axe-----chop-with-axe-----  
ANY GOOD SURPLUS PLACES IN USA, <BLAH> V1.23

Notes:

- \* States that end with a '?' have no entries!
- \* States that end with a '!' have LOTS of entries!
- \* We want you to help us transform the '?'s into '!'s ! :-)

Areas in this version:

- \* California!
- \* ---Redondo Beach
- \* ---Sunnyvale
- \* ---Los Angeles
- \* ---Los Angeles - Swap Meet Schedule
- \* ---San Jose
- \* ---San Fernando Valley
- \* ---Santa Clara
- \* ---Redwood City
- \* ---Mountain View
- \* ---Somewhere/City Unknown
- \* Colorado
- \* ---Boulder
- \* ---Colorado Springs
- \* ---Denver
- \* Georgia
- \* ---Atlanta
- \* Idaho
- \* ---Boise
- \* Illinois
- \* ---Skokie
- \* Iowa
- \* ---Cedar Rapids
- \* Massachusetts!
- \* ---Cambridge
- \* ---Woburn
- \* ---Wakefield
- \* Minnesota
- \* ---St. Paul
- \* ---Eden Prairie
- \* ---Minneapolis

- \* Missouri
  - \* ---Saint Louis
  - \* New Hampshire
  - \* ---Manchester
  - \* New Jersey
  - \* ---Eatontown
  - \* New Mexico
  - \* ---Albuquerque
  - \* ---Los Alamos
  - \* New York
  - \* ---New York
  - \* Ohio
  - \* ---Dayton
  - \* ---Lima
  - \* Oregon
  - \* ---Portland
  - \* Tennessee
  - \* ---????
  - \* Washington!
  - \* ---Redmond
  - \* ---Kent/Auburn
  - \* ---Seattle
  - \* ---Gone/RIP
  - \* ---Tacoma
  - \* ---Tukwila
  - \* These states have NOTHING!
- 

CALIFORNIA!

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---REDONDO BEACH

TRW Swap Meet

(From John Scarpulla)

Last saturday of the month  
7:00 AM to noon

TRW parking lot, corner of Marine Ave. and Aviation Blvd, Redondo Beach, CA Rosecrans ave exit from 405 freeway, then go west on Rosecrans, left on Aviation (southbound) turn right into TRW lot just before the Chevron Station

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---SUNNYVALE

(From Mick Ishmael)

Mike Quinn's in Oakland (at the airport), Surplus Stuff (Curtis Trading) in Fremont, Haltek and Halted in South bay, Wierd Stuff in South bay...

(From Weston Beal)

Weird Stuff Warehouse  
1190 Kern Ave.  
sunnyvale, CA 94086  
Tel: 408-746-1100

Also, they can direct you to Halted Electronics, just down the road.

(From John Paul Flowers) I was just at Weird Stuff, they have changed recently.

They no longer have pure electronics and test equipment surplus, I had to go to Halted to get the coax connector I was looking for. They are more into selling surplus computer equipment. Please tell me that I am wrong, but when I asked about what happened they said that they sold a lot of that type of stuff to a certain individual.

Also a place called Haltek(notice the 'k' at the end) is located in Mountain View off of Shoreline. I haven't been there in a while, but it is(was?) a more pure electronics surplus, in that you can find more components and assemblies.

(From John Nagle)

They're under new management too. Haltek was getting a bit run down; the same stock had been picked over so many times that little worthwhile was left. The huge pile of dead floppy drives hadn't changed much in years. The pile of plastic in the back was down to mostly odd-shaped pieces, and the test equipment was pretty dead. Lots

of obsolete monitors, though, many new in boxes. Haltek is reorganizing, and I'm not sure what is happening.

Halted and Haltek are the places to go when you have in mind what you want, and have an organized selection of surplus resistors, pots, and such. Halted also carries some ham radio gear and kits.

Wierd Stuff is used off-brand computer headquarters. You see stuff like Xerox 1100 LISP machines (those finally sold), the original Imagen laser printer controller, and similar rare items.

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#### ---LOS ANGELES

(From Guy Cole KQ6J)

#### Swap Meets/HamFests

General Dynamics (2nd Saturday of each month)  
6th & Cleveland Ave in Rancho Cucamonga  
7-11:30am (ugh!) talk in on 146.91(-.6)

TRW (last Saturday of each month)  
Marina & Aviation in Manhattan Beach.  
7-11:30 (obviously not computer people) talk in on 145.32(-.6) PL=2A

(From Jeff Stai)

You must go to C&H Surplus in Pasadena. Sounds like just what you want! It's on Colorado, south side of the street, west of Sierra Madre Blvd

(From Theron J. Lewis)

Well, there are a few places you can try (assuming they are still standing).

1. All Electronics (sepulveda and oxnard (818)997-1806 or 213-380-8000
2. Sandy's electronics (6770 Coldwater and Victory (818)765-8585, also 21305 Saticoy and Canoga (818)346-8353, I think.)
3. Hacker's electronics (21016 Devenshire, Chatsworth (818)882-7980)
4. Pace electronics (simi valley (805)522-7394 4680 E. Los Angeles ave.) westlake village (805)497-7515, 369 Hampshire road)

I have been to all of these and they are pretty good. Pace is the best \*regular\* store I know. All electronics and Hacker Electronics are great and All sells chips and stuff out of bins (74\*\*/74LS\*\*,78XX, etc), but their big thing is surplus. All Electronics is like the Pic 'N' Save of electronics.

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#### ---LOS ANGELES - SWAP MEET SCHEDULE

(From sysop@kbbs.com)

By popular request, we're now maintaining an online schedule of all L.A. area computer swap meets. If you've ever been to one of these, you know why they're so popular -- hundreds of vendors selling whole computers, software, printers, books, CD-Roms, hard drives, RAM chips. All of the items are brand new and under warranty, and most are 10%-20% under mail order prices.

To request the schedule, just send e-mail to swap@kbbs.com. No special keywords are required, and you'll get an automated reply in about 15 minutes.

For an INSTANT list, just FINGER swap@204.96.25.7

or

<http://kbbs.kbbsnet.com/swap.htm>

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#### ---SAN JOSE

(From Robert Casey) Wierdstuff  
Lawrence Expressway & Kern, Sunnyvale. Lots of "vintage" computer hardware, some software, some electromechanical stuff. Much of the stuff is guaranteed not to work. i.e. as-is.

Action electronics  
Across the street (Lawrence) and north a bit, in a small shopping

plaza, next to "Disk Drive Depot". Smaller than Wierdstuff, similar stuff. More cables and such.

NOTE: Action and Halted closed on Sundays, Wierdstuff open then.

Prices aren't too bad, somewhat comparable to a hamfest, maybe a tad but higher.

(From Mark Robert Thorson)

Also Haltek Electronics in Mountain View, Ace Electronics in Sunnyvale right around the corner from Halted Specialties, and Triangle Machinery near 101 and 280. I've been meaning to go back to Triangle to pick up some more of those \$4 fiber-optic plates to use as ashtrays if they haven't sold them all.

(From C Martin)

Advanced Component Electronics  
3479 Kifer Road - Santa Clara  
1534 Berger Drive - San Jose

(spitting distance from Halted)  
Halted Specialties Co.  
3500 Ryder Street - Santa Clara

Corner of Central Expressway and Lawrence, Southeast corner, about 1000 feet east on/near Central, enter on funny cloverleaf. Lots of components (resistors, caps, semiconductors, wire, and such) and some computer stuff (vintage)

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#### ---SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

(From Robert F. Antoniewicz)

The grandaddy of all such places is a place called APEX in the north San Fernando Valley (Just off Lankershim, on S.F. Mission? )

They have more old gear (working and not) than you can glance at in an afternoon.

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---SANTA CLARA

(From C Martin)

Active Electronics  
Somewhere on El Camino Real - Santa Clara  
(not surplus and overpriced, but sometimes worth going to).

(From Bob Smith)

Anchor Electronics  
2040 Walsh Ave  
Santa Clara, CA  
Tel: 727-3693

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---REDWOOD CITY

(From Dave Turner)

HdB Electronics  
2860 Spring Street  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
Tel: (415) 368-1388

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---MOUNTAIN VIEW

(From Dave Turner)

Haltek Electronics  
1062 Linda Vista Avenue  
Mountain View, CA 94043  
Tel: (415) 969-0510  
Fax: (415) 964-6973

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---SOMEWHERE/CITY UNKNOWN

(From Mark Robert Thorson)

Triangle Machinery, near 880 and 101. A little electronics, but lots of other interesting stuff (mostly machinery). Lots of air cylinders. Great prices.

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COLORADO

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---BOULDER

(From Quest Electronics Inc)

J B Saunders, Electronics  
4700 Sterling  
Boulder, CO 80302

Owner: Gary  
Tel: 303-442-1212

This is a nice walk in store with in depth stock of all types of parts, i.e. resistors, caps, wire, transformers, etc. It's a great place to go, but they don't do any mail order.

They have been around since the beginning of time, and most of the staff is very friendly and helpful.

They are located just east of Foothills Parkway, and about a block south of Valmont Ave. If you are in Boulder, this place is worth the trip.

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---COLORADO SPRINGS

(From Quest Electronics Inc)

OEM Parts

Owned by Mr. Dick Peacock

They are listed in the phone book

This is a store that has a little of everything. Kind of a electronic junk store, but interesting to go into. It is all local people.

They are located on the north side of Colorado Sprints, a little east of I-25.

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---DENVER

(From Quest Electronics Inc)

Quest Electronics  
5715 W 11th Ave.  
Denver, CO 80214

Tel: 303-274-7545

FAX: 303-274-2317

E-mail: questusa@ix.netcom.com

Full line of IC's, CAPs, resistors, transistors, AND TUBES. They are mostly mail order, and ship international. You can also come in and brouse.

From I-25 tack 6th Ave west about 2 miles to the Sheridan exit. Then go north 5 blocks to 11th Ave. Turn left and go a long block. They are the big building with the flag pole. Just look for the flag pole and you are there.

Quest also offers a FREE CATALOG. Just call/FAX/or e-mail and ask for one. From time to time they has lots of surplus computers at dirt chear prices. These are not advertised you have go in to get these.

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GEORGIA

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---ATLANTA

(From Paul Hudson)

I deal with Ack Radio in Atlanta on a regular basis. Their main thing is new equipment, parts, and test equipment. I have never seen any surplus equipment or parts there. They do have a very large selection of parts and equipment and a good size catalog. They list themselves as "Industrial Electronics" suppliers.

Ack Radio Supply Co.  
554 Deering Road N.W.  
Atlanta, GA 30367-2267  
Toll Free: 1-800-282-7954  
Voice : (404) 351-6340  
FAX : (404) 351-1879

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IDAHO

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---BOISE

(From Jerilyn McLaren)

Hi-Tech Surplus  
Tel: 208-375-7516

Call and get on their Fax list.

You will find computer parts from HP to Amiga, Lasers, Audio gear, stepper motors and all other motors, components, test equipment, all kinds of things.... they even give things away.

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ILLINOIS

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---SKOKIE

(From Stuart Friedberg)

Jerryco are now called American Science & Surplus, their catalogs are still very amusing, they are still very much in business, with retail outlets in Chicago and Milwaukie, and a mail order outlet that eats a lot of my spending money.

American Science & Surplus  
3605 Howard Street  
Skokie, IL 60076  
708 982 0870 (phone)  
800 934 0722 (fax)

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IOWA

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---CEDAR RAPIDS

(From Douglas W. Jones)

As something of a regular at the Collins Radio (also known as Rockwell International) corporate surplus outlet in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, I strongly recommend a serious search of how your large corporate neighbors dispose of their leftovers! I've found everything from whole computers to carbide drills for circuit boards there, and the prices can't be beat!

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MASSACHUSETTS!

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---CAMBRIDGE

(From Syed Zaeem Hosain)

E L I Incorporated  
139 Hampshire Street  
Cambridge, MA  
Tel: (617) 547-4005

ELI is awesome - for electronics stuff.

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---WOBURN

(From Steve Byan)

Electronic Super Store  
20 Normac Road  
Woburn, MA  
Tel: 617-932-6800

Store hours: M-F 10-8, Sat 9-5, and Sun 12-5

Their sign is visible just south of Rt 128, in the industrial park just west of the "Bliss Marine" exit (Exit 36 "Washington

Avenue")

They carry a large variety of parts, computer junk, used electronic test equipment, and various lab junk...er, equipment.

(From Visal Tanglertpaibul)

(Electronic Super Store) You can see their big sign from 128 south from 93 and 128 junction. It is the first exit (Washington St., I think). They have all kind of stuff including used oscilloscope, computer etc. It is an electronic heaven!.

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---WAKEFIELD

(From Jon Sreekanth)

ERM (Electronic Liquidators) who used to be in Melrose; now they're at

ERM (Electronic Liquidators)  
50 New Salem Street  
Wakefield, MA 01880

Tel: 617-246-6767

Seem to specialize in computer related junk like old hard drives, etc.

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MINNESOTA

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---ST. PAUL

(From Brian Schousek)

Well as an electronics surplus store, the Axman is tolerable. I don't

miss a chance to stop by whenever I'm through the cities. And as far as other neat surplus stuff and pure ambience, it can't be beat. The original store is at 1639 University Ave. in St. Paul (Just head east from campus...watch on your left for a Burger King.) (612) 646-8653. There are also at least two satellite stores.

(From Steve Jacobson)

Asset Recovery Corp  
1907 Charles Ave  
St. Paul  
PH: 641-0789

Supposed to be pretty good, but not open on weekends. I have never been there myself.

---

---EDEN PRAIRIE

(From Steve Jacobson)

All phone # are area code 612

Dexis Corp  
9749 Hamilton Rd  
Eden Prairie  
PH: 944-7670

This place has quite a bit of stuff in a big warehouse.

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---MINNEAPOLIS

ABC Electronics  
317 7 Av. N  
Minneapolis  
PH: 332-2378

This place is in the warehouse district in Minneapolis. Small, but packed with stuff, mostly components. Sometimes they close on

Saturdays, and sometimes not. If you go there, call ahead to make sure they are open.

Midwest Surplus & Electronics  
124 12 Ave. S  
Minneapolis  
PH: 339-9533

Mostly a junk shop, but has some good stuff buried in.

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#### MISSOURI

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#### ---SAINT LOUIS

(From John Bunting)

##### Electronics Exchange

On St. Charles Rock Rd a couple blocks west of 170. All surplus, consignment. Old 50's and some fairly new test equipment. Computer systems (mostly XT vintage), monitors, other parts. Used consumer electronics (some working, some as-is). Best prices in SL area.

##### Gateway Electronics

On Page near Midland. About 20% used/surplus, rest new stuff. All stuff is in open bins where you can examine it. Best ham stuff. Lots of as-is hard drives for \$5.

##### A-Z Used Computers

On Metro Blvd. Just off Dorsett a couple blocks east of 270. Used/consignment computers. One room each for IBM, Apple and Commodore. Also, as-is room. Recycled software. Cheap used laptops also. Prices good to fair.

##### Software Plus

On Olive west of 270. Good selection of recycled software. Cd-rom titles (new) not so cheap.

(From William Jeremiah)

Laclede Computer Trading Company

has just moved to 1300 Mackland (I think) and has a selection of XT/286 vintage computers, cards, and parts as well as a selection of software from the same era.

ECP (Electronics and Computer Parts

On Page just west of 170 (about 20% used surplus) is quite a bit like Gateway but has a larger selection of computers and cards.

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NEW HAMPSHIRE

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---MANCHESTER

(From Steve Byan)

Electronic Superstore has a branch in Manchester:

Electronic Surplus Service  
186 Granite Street  
Manchester, NH  
Tel: (603) 624-9600

Store hours: M-F 10-6, Thursday 10-8, and Saturday 9-5

Directions:

1. 293 North to exit 5
2. right on Granite St.
3. right on Commercial St.
4. Electronic Surplus Service is on the right

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NEW JERSEY

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---EATONTOWN

(From Joe Orost)

Atkinson & Smith (upstairs), Eatontown, NJ

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NEW MEXICO

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---ALBUQUERQUE

(From Galen Watts KF0YJ)

In east Albuquerque, out the street that runs on the south side of the UNM campus is a surplus/neat stuff kind of store. It's pretty far out east, almost to where the street (Candelaria Street????) meets I-40.

If you exit off I-25 going east along the south side of campus, you'll come to a 'Y' intersection. Take the south fork and go out to 7800 or so (maybe 7500? I haven't been there in a while) and look for metal rack cabinets in front. The store is in a six-store building about 100 feet back from the street.

Try the phone book, that's how I found them.

---

---LOS ALAMOS

(From Galen Watts KF0YJ)

If you can get up to Los Alamos, try the L.A. Salvage Co. Plan to spend the day, they've got some real interesting stuff, mostly "scientific surplus".

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NEW YORK

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---NEW YORK

(From Henry Carl Ott)

You kind of missed the surplus scene in NYC by about 10 years. Used to be dozens of places on Canal St. (and below) and on 45th St. These days there is not much to see. You might want to check out Canal St. anyway, there are still a couple of junk stores and some general weirdness, but nothing like the good old days. Sigh.

(From Mark Garvin)

There are still a couple [more] places in NY:

- \* Clark Reese on Leonard Street
- \* Leeds in Brooklyn

and supposedly a place called Vulcan somewhere upstate Not sure of the location, but I'd love to find it.

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OHIO

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---DAYTON

(From Steve Wolf) While in Dayton I visited Mendelson Electronics (800-344-4465). They had dozens of large sinks. As a surplus supply, meeting some exact specs would be too difficult. I bet, however, the request for a "large heatsink about 19 by 24 by 4" would yield a price.

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---LIMA

(From Andrew Emmerson)

Fair Radio Sales Co  
P.O. Box 1105  
1016 E. Eureka Street  
Lima, OH 45802  
Tel: (419) 223 2196  
Tel: (419) 227 6573  
Fax: (419) 227 1313

Easily the best surplus place I've seen in the USA. Several rooms full of old radio equipment, test gear, industrial electronics, components, telephones, connectors and cables, old magazines. Annual illustrated catalogue.

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OREGON

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---PORTLAND

(From Andrew Emmerson)

Cascade Surplus Electronics  
8221 N. Denver Avenue  
Tel: (503) 285 0832

Open: Friday, Saturday 10.00-18.00, Sunday 12.00-16.00

Always shuttered so still try and enter even when it looks shut.  
Fairly modern computers and industrial electronics, much of which you  
might be hard to find a use for. Plenty of old manuals and data books.

R5-D3 Electronic Surplus  
6111 SE 82nd  
Tel: (503) 774 6560

Open: Tuesday-Saturday

Tube-era radio and military gear, test equipment, tubes, old  
telephones. Friendly place.

Wacky Willy's Surplus  
417 SE 11th  
Tel: (503) 234 6864  
Fax: (503) 234 2226

Open: Monday-Saturday 09.00-18.30

Mainly computer stuff, screens, keyboards, etc. Some components, line  
cords, computer cables.

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TENNESSEE

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---????

Hosfelt

(From Adam Frampton)

Hosfelt is a fairly good source of electronics; their shipping is cheap, however their catalog is not very descriptive and many of the parts are taken out of something don't work. Sometimes if you order 2 or 3 of something you'll find that they are made by different manufacturers and they are slightly different. Other than this, the prices are quite good.

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WASHINGTON!

---

---REDMOND

(From LINETRAMP)

Check out the place next door to Active Electronics in Redmond (can't recall the name, but it's loaded with old test gear and junk in general).

(From Mark Zenier)

Vetco

Next, there Vetco, in the light industrial slums in Bellevue/Redmond east of Seattle, across the lake.

Vetco Surplus Sales  
13100something 20th NorthEast (aka Northrup Way)

Tel: 869-7025

Test Equipment, Microwave, Computer. (Next building to Active Electronics, a new parts distributor.) Last time I was there, they were expanding.

(From Christopher Nielsen)

I bought a Bechman DVM for \$30 a couple of years ago. I believe the owners name is Warren McPherson

---

---KENT/AUBURN

(From LINETRAMP)

Also take a look at Boeing Surplus in Kent or Auburn (you never know what city you are in around there) Mostly EXPENSIVE airplane manufacturing remnants and floor sweepings, but a lot of cool stuff "by the pound".

---

---SEATTLE

(From Tom Bruhns)

Boeing Surplus sells wire by the pound: \$1.25/lb, even for Teflon coax, if they have it. Real pot luck. They also have decent prices on tools. Some tools are new, some used. Look very carefully at the used ones. Boeing can be a good place to get drill bits (but not circuit board size). Decent selection of aluminum sheet, sometimes some aluminum extrusions in useful shapes (like round tubing) but more commonly very special extrusions.

Also, Radar Electric on Western near Seattle Center has some misc. surplus electronics components, and upstairs in the back, some electro-mechanical stuff.

(From Mark Zenier)

RE/PC at 6th South and Massachusetts. Southeast of the Kingdome and a couple blocks south of the International District (a.k.a. Chinatown). A spinoff of one of the local PC repair contractors, PC-FIXX. Working used and surplus PCs (IBM and Macs) along with used upgrade parts and a graveyard section of older stuff of all makes (as is). Shares space with PC-Fixx's store which sells new upgrade parts.

(From Daniel R. Mauch)

Radar electric, Electronic supply in Seattle have lots of surplus stuff as well as the electronic mall in Lynwood.

---

---GONE/RIP

(From Mark Zenier)

The good surplus places aren't in Seattle anymore. It's been a bad 5 years or so. Three good ones are gone: United Products, Western Nut and Bolt, and Washington Liquidators.

---

---TACOMA

(From Mark Zenier)

#### Electronic Dimensions

The best for your purposes (and probably the most fun to browse, especially if you ask for something weird and he lets you into the back room) is Electronic Dimensions on Puyallup Avenue in Tacoma, about 30 miles to the south. (I hope it's still there, I haven't been since last summer. With the way things are disappearing...) A wide variety of stuff from 1940's to present. Test Equipment, Radio, components.

(From Mark Zenier)

In Seattle, there's a store that specializes in Antique Radios. Radio Steve's Old Technology Shop. Just north of Green Lake on Aurora North. Old Electronics and Antique Tools. (Irregular hours.)

- \* Scrap yards  
With an occasional pile of electronics are:
- \* Boeing Surplus in Kent  
Some clapped out test equipment. They quit retail sales in the

electronics section and now sell most of that by bid lot at auction. Test Equipment, Computers.

- \* Pacific Industrial  
Seattle, south of the Kingdome on 4th Ave South.  
and
- \* Pacific Iron and Metals  
a couple of blocks north of Pacific Industrial.

Both are scrap yards that may have something electronic and always have a high entertainment value if you're into that sort of thing. Or you just want to buy metal decking, ax handles, or a new power block for your purse seiner.

Finally, some of the local new stock distributors have a fair amount of surplus on display or in a side room. Components only for the most part.

- \* Radar Electric  
Seattle, by the Seattle Center. Best place in town for electronics tools.
- \* Supertronix  
in Kent, by the Boeing Aerospace facility, a couple miles west of Boeing Surplus. Sort of a Radio Shack on Steroid, similar to Active Electronics.
- \* Electronic Supply  
just west of the I-5 Freeway on North 45th St., west of the University of Washington. Consumer Electronic Repair parts, Batteries.
- \* Electronic Supermart (The folks from United Products)  
north of the city, in Lynnwood, southwest of the Alderwood Mall.  
More new parts, less surplus than the old United Products.
- \* Amateur Radio Supply  
north of Boeing Field on Corson Ave. A little bit of used Ham Gear.

There are also about 4 or so Ham Swapmeets a year in the area, a regular commercial monthly computer swapmeet that rotates between 3 different sites, and a couple of guys that sell test equipment out of their garages. (Anyone know if the guy that sells old Tek stuff in Redmond or Woodenville still has a store?)

---

---TUKWILA

(From Keith Lofstrom)

There is a semi-interesting used software place named "Bruno's" in Tukwila, at the south end of Seattle; worth a stop on the way through.

If your travels take you 25 miles south to Tacoma, there is a surplus store (Electronic Dimensions?) with a lot of military and RF test equipment - I found the owner a little disagreeable, though, so I don't have more info.

I have second hand information about a place up in Snohomish county called Electronics Mall; when they were down near Lake Union, they had appropriately decaying electronics gizzies. It is sad that they moved, because they were a couple of blocks from Archie McPhee's on Stone Way, the best Inappropriate Toy Store in the world. Since I bought "electronic surplus" there (a foam plastic rock that makes the sound of shattering glass when it hits something) I will mention Archies as a source of surplus. You need a glow-in-the-dark plastic slug, don't you?

---

THESE STATES HAVE NOTHING!

- \* Alabama?
- \* Alaska?
- \* Arizona?
- \* Arkansas?
- \* Connecticut?
- \* Delaware?
- \* District of Columbia (DC)?
- \* Florida?
- \* Hawaii?
- \* Idaho?
- \* Indiana?
- \* Iowa?
- \* Kansas?
- \* Kentucky?

- \* Louisiana?
  - \* Maine?
  - \* Maryland?
  - \* Michigan?
  - \* Mississippi?
  - \* Montana?
  - \* Nebraska?
  - \* Nevada?
  - \* North Carolina?
  - \* North Dakota?
  - \* Oklahoma?
  - \* Pennsylvania?
  - \* Rhode Island?
  - \* South Carolina?
  - \* South Dakota?
  - \* Texas?
  - \* Utah?
  - \* Vermont?
  - \* Virginia?
  - \* West Virginia?
  - \* Wisconsin?
  - \* Wyoming?
- 

This article compiled by <filipg@paranoia.com>. The most recent  
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<http://www.paranoia.com/~filipg> [Copyright] [Disclaimer]

-----chop-with-axe-----chop-with-axe-----

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: KANAMAA%AMGATE%MATRXA@randb.pprd.abbott.com  
Subject: Surplus/BA's in Lost Wages, NV  
Message-ID: <01HSQMMUFL2A8ZH6YF@RANDB.PPRD.Abbott.Com>

From: Kana, Michael X.  
From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
Subject: Surplus/BA's in Lost Wages, NV

73 de AA9IL  
Mike Kana

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: Filip M Gieszczykiewicz <filip@smi.med.pitt.edu>  
Subject: Surplus/BA's in Lost Wages, NV (fwd)  
Message-ID: <9507111505.AA09367@alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu>

> From: Kana, Michael X.  
> Date: Tue, Jul 11, 1995 9:35 AM  
> Subject: Surplus/BA's in Lost Wages, NV  
> To: bigboats  
>  
> I was wondering if there are any good surplus electronic stores or  
> BA dealers in good ol' Sin City? I think there is a ham fest in the  
> AES parking lot on the first weekend of the month (?). I think my  
> money will be better spent on boatanchors than feeding the slots.

Greetings. Speaking of which [smile]... I have been referred to this list because I'm currently working on a list of surplus places in the USA (and world, really - some UK and CA entries) for the sci.electronics FAQ. The list is about 32KB so I'm not sure I want to post it here but I'm looking for any additions and corrections. The FAQ for this list is not that clear on what to do in this case but... if you feel that you want to see this list, e-mail me (or, better yet) get it yourself with the WWW->email interface by sending the request:

SEND http://alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu:9000/TEMP

to: agora@mail.w3.org

This will give you the main menu. For ease of use, the 3 links on that page can be obtained with the following SEND commands:

(USA list - 32KB)

SEND http://alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu:9000/TEMP/F\_surplus\_us.html

(Canada list - 6KB)

SEND http://alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu:9000/TEMP/F\_surplus\_ca.html

(UK list - 3KB)

SEND http://alpha.smi.med.pitt.edu:9000/TEMP/F\_surplus\_uk.html

Please send any additions, corrections, flames, insults to:

filipg@paranoia.com

This list, as well as any other articles in the FAQ (and WWW site

<http://www.paranoia.com/~filipg>) will always be available for free from "somewhere". The www.paranoia.com is paid up for next 12 months... if it disappears, I will post the new address to all the usual places. :-)

Take care.

P.S. The following states have NO entries [sigh]:

-----chop-with-axe-----chop-with-axe-----

- \* Alabama?
- \* Alaska?
- \* Arizona?
- \* Arkansas?
- \* Colorado?
- \* Connecticut?
- \* Deleware?
- \* District of Columbia (DC)?
- \* Florida?
- \* Hawaii?
- \* Idaho?
- \* Indiana?
- \* Iowa?
- \* Kansas?
- \* Kentucky?
- \* Louisiana?
- \* Maine?
- \* Maryland?
- \* Michigan?
- \* Mississippi?
- \* Montana?
- \* Nebraska?
- \* Nevada?
- \* North Carolina?
- \* North Dakota?
- \* Oklahoma?
- \* Oregon?
- \* Pennsylvania?
- \* Rhode Island?
- \* South Carolina?
- \* South Dakota?
- \* Texas?
- \* Utah?
- \* Vermont?
- \* Virginia?
- \* West Virginia?
- \* Wisconsin?
- \* Wyoming?

-----chop-with-axe-----chop-with-axe-----

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: Clark Fishman (FSAC) <cfishman@fsac3.pica.army.mil>  
Subject: SWAN 250  
Message-ID: <9507110804.aa07213@FSAC3.PICA.ARMY.MIL>

I need a copy of the schematic for the SWAN 250 6 meter xcvr.

copying and shipping cost gladdly paid

TNX, Clark Fishman WA2UNN cfishman@pica.army.mil  
PO Box 150  
Andover, NJ 07821

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 13:14:00 1995  
From: "Tony Stalls (K4KY0)" <j38@clark.net>  
Subject: Re: SWAN 250  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950711091521.15704B-100000@clark.net>

W7FG Vintage Manuals has the Swan 250 manual for \$16. Call 800-807-6146

73,  
Tony  
K4KY0

On Tue, 11 Jul 1995, Clark Fishman wrote:

> I need a copy of the schematic for the SWAN 250 6 meter xcvr.  
>  
> copying and shipping cost gladdly paid  
>  
> TNX, Clark Fishman WA2UNN cfishman@pica.army.mil  
> PO Box 150  
> Andover, NJ 07821  
>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: jproc@worldlinx.com  
Subject: Telegraphic Typewriters  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950709202110.jproc@>

Thanks to everyone for their submissions on telegraphic typewriters. I have now been enlightened on this aspect of copying CW.

Regards,

-----  
Jerry Proc VE3FAB  
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com  
Radio Restoration Volunteer  
HMCS Haida Toronto, Ontario  
-----

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Dave Horsfall <dave@esi.COM.AU>  
Subject: Re: Time and Frequency Stations  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950711161202.10812F-100000@eram.esi.com.au>

On Wed, 5 Jul 1995 jproc@worldlinx.com wrote:

> Why did so many stations choose to use 5, 10 and 15 MHz? With propagation the  
> way it is, would there not be a major problem with mutual interference?

Some sort of "standard", I believe.

> 4500 VNG, Lyndhurst Australia  
> 12000 VNG, Lyndhurst, Australia  
> 7500 VNG, Lyndhurst, Australia

Ick - this \_is\_ old... Following a government snafu (which I might tell  
some time), VNG (Llandilo, Sydney, Australia) is now on:

2.5 MHz AM, 5 MHz AM, 8.638 MHz DSB, 12.984 MHz DSB, 16 MHz AM.

Pips every second, a suppressed pip just before the minute which is  
an extended pip, and voice ident every 15 mins (I think), except on  
the DSB channels (on loan from the Navy) which are slow CW.

Long story.

--  
Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU) | dave@esi.com.au | VK2KFU @ VK2AAB.NSW.AUS.OC | PGP 2.6  
Opinions expressed are mine. | E7 FE 97 88 E5 02 3C AE 9C 8C 54 5B 9A D4 A0 CD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: mirage!pamars@uhura.neoucom.EDU (P.A.Marshall)  
Subject: Re: Tube ID type 4610  
Message-ID: <9507100015-AA07272@mirage>

HAK1%IC%DCPP@bangate.pge.com writes:

>  
> I tried this last year with no success so I am trying again. I have some RCA  
> branded tubes with the number 4610 on them. They are date coded in 1969 and  
> 1970. They look exactly like 829B's EXCEPT that there is no connection for a  
> screen. They are dual triodes. I talked to AES about them and they couldn't  
> come up with anything in their tube bibles. Hopefully someone on here might  
> have a late RCA handbook or other info that has these tubes identified.

>

Well, the Electron tube locator has two entries, one says it's a type 36 tetrode with a 5E base, the other entry say's it's a type 38 power pentode with a 5F base. Go figure.

Al Marshall "Real Radios Glow in the Dark" almarshall@acm.org

As nightfall does not come at once, neither does oppression. In both instances, there is a twilight when everything remains seemingly unchanged. And it is in such twilight that we all must be most aware of change in the air--however slight--lest we become unwitting victims of the darkness.

Justice William O. Douglas

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995

From: pesarini@flashnet.it (Gabriel Pesarini)

Subject: Valve 6000 info please

Message-ID: <199507110045.BAA32600@star.flashnet.it>

Hi all,

I recently bought a mechanically beautifull 1950s vintage VFO from the usual hamfest. The thermally stabilized VFO is made by Collins (in this incarnation "Collins Industries, inc.") and the vernier, mechanical-digital readout, variable inductance (permeability tuned, remember?) by Veeder Root, inc. Hartford, Conn. The sub-assembly was obviously part of a larger transmitter and/or receiver unit. Frequency coverage is 1.5-3.0 , 3.0-6.0 , 6.0-12 , 12-20 MHz.

My question is: one of the valves is a type 6000, a medium sized glass envelope (smaller than a 6L6, larger than a 6J7), octal base. What is its pinout and heater voltage?

My secondary question is: anybody know anything more about the unit? Schematics?

I don't normally get this list (not enough hours in a day); would you kindly e-mail your answer?

Thanks and 73 de  
Pesa, IK0HIT, Amsat-UK-4559  
ik0hit@amsat.org  
G. Pesarini <----> pesarini@star.flashnet.it

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Damon Z Cassell <dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu>  
Subject: Viking Paint?  
Message-ID: <199507100401.AAA00120@lynx.dac.neu.edu>

On the topic of Johnson equipment (see my previous post regarding the Challenger), does anybody have any suggestions regarding painting Johnson Viking series covers and cases so that they (at least somewhat) match the dark burgandy color of the factory paint?

It will be necessary to paint the case of this Challenger, because some bonehead WRAPPED it in masking tape, that over the years was BAKED on by the heat generated by the rig. The steps I took to try to remove the tape worked well in both removing the tape, and unfortunately the paint too :(

I also have a Viking II that needs was painted a hideous bright BLUE all over, and a MINT Ranger that was unfortunately hit with black paint on the case.

So basically I have three Vikings here screaming for paint...any suggestions? I'd like to get these things looking nice, and matching their original colors as closely as possible.

Any spray paints out there that might match? Anything?

I have a commercial auto-body paint sprayer, but getting the appropriate paint matched and mixed would be a little costly. I'm looking for a cheap alternative that a starving BA enthusiast could afford.

Any ideas?

-- Damon, WU1T  
(hitting the yard sale circuit looking for more \$1 Vikings!)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 05:36:00 1995  
From: Jeffrey Herman <jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu>  
Subject: Why we love tubes  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950710132307.18004A-100000@kahuna>

The "Who's more sensitive" thread discussed tube vs solid state receiver sensitivity. But when it comes the finals in a transmitter, there's no question that tubes are superior:

>From rec.radio.broadcasting:

>BTW - that old BTF-3B was one bulletproof transmitter. At one point the >de-icers failed on the Jampro antenna, and all 6 elements became solid >globes of ice. The main transmitter refused to operate into that load. >The 3B stayed on the air until the ice melted a week later, delivering 2.5 >Kw forward power while seeing 2 Kw reflected back. It didn't care.  
>Lou Schneider  
>KCBS/KRQR  
>San Francisco

Jeff NH6IL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995

From: Jeffrey Herman <jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu>  
Subject: Why we love tubes  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950711151424.22103A-100000@kahuna>

Last week's thread ("Who is more sensitive") dealt with tube vs solid state receivers. Now, just to remind ourselves that tube \*transmitters\* are without a doubt more superior to their solid state counterparts:

>From rec.radio.broadcasting:

>BTW - that old BTF-3B was one bulletproof transmitter. At one point the >de-icers failed on the Jampro antenna, and all 6 elements became solid >globes of ice. The main transmitter refused to operate into that load. >The 3B stayed on the air until the ice melted a week later, delivering 2.5 >Kw forward power while seeing 2 Kw reflected back. It didn't care.  
>Lou Schneider  
>KCBS/KRQR  
>San Francisco

2 kW reflected? Whew!

Jeff NH6IL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jul 11 23:31:00 1995

From: durham@w2xo.pgh.pa.us (James C. Durham)  
Subject: Re: Why we love tubes  
Message-ID: <199507120252.WAA22278@w2xo.pgh.pa.us>

Jeffrey Herman <jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu> wrote:

>From rec.radio.broadcasting:  
>BTW - that old BTF-3B was one bulletproof transmitter. At one point the  
>de-icers failed on the Jampro antenna, and all 6 elements became solid  
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>The 3B stayed on the air until the ice melted a week later, delivering 2.5  
>Kw forward power while seeing 2 Kw reflected back. It didn't care.  
>Lou Schneider  
>KCBS/KRQR  
>San Francisco

Even better was a \*water-cooled\* tube transmitter. At WGR , when I was the all-night man, we had an RCA BTA-5H (relatively modern, air cooled), and a BTA-5C, from the 30's, water cooled.

We used six-wire open wire line to feed the four tower nighttime array. In Buffalo, you get really nasty ice storms. At about 3 am, the plate current on the 5H would start climbing and pretty soon, the overload relays would drop out and no more radio station! Right before that happened, you could put the 5C into the antenna. It was a linear amplifier with a 250 watt driver and demodulated NEGATIVE FEEDBACK right off the antenna to clean up distortion. It would just sit there and pump power into the ice and sound really good doing it. Signal got a little weak 8-).

Then, you called out the transmitter man and said "get the ball bat"! He would go out to the antenna farm, and hit the open wire with a ball bat until the signal came back up.

> 2 kW reflected? Whew!

> Jeff NH6IL

How about 4.5 kw reflected?

-Jim, W2XO